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12ft. 4in. by 11ft. 11in.	..	...	...	14 10 0

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PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, HOODMAN BLIND.

STRAND THEATRE. — This Evening at 7.30, THE MARRIED RAKE. At 8.15, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY. At 9.15, COUSIN JOHNNY.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—This Evening, at 8, LORD DUNDREARY'S BROTHER SAM. At 9.45, THE VICAR OF WIDEAWAKEFIELD.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—This Evening, at 8, NEARLY SEVERED. At 9, LOOSE TILES.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 9, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. At 8, A BAD PENNY.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are strongly recommended to all persons who are much reduced in power and condition, whose stomachs are weak, and whose nerves are shattered. The beneficial effects of these Pills will be perceptible after a few days' trial, though a more extended course may be required to re-establish perfect health. Holloway's medicine acts on the organs of digestion, and induces complete regularity in the stomach, liver, pancreas, and kidneys. This treatment is both safe and certain in result, and is thoroughly consistent with observation, experience, and common sense. The purification of the blood, the removal of all noxious matter from the secretions, and the excitement of gentle action in the bowels, are the sources of the curative powers of Holloway's Pills.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 21, at Milton Ernest, Bedford, the wife of the Rev. E. S. DODD, of a son.

Sept. 23, at High Cross Vicarage, Herts, the wife of the Rev. CLAUDE CECIL THORNTON, of a son.

Sept. 24 at Bletchington Park, the Viscountess VALENTIA, of a daughter.

Sept. 25, at Cotswold House, Winchester, the Lady HAREIOT BUNBURY, of a daughter.

Sept. 25, at Barking, Essex, the wife of the Rev. VINCENT SMITH, Missionary Curate, of a daughter.

Sept. 26, at Brighton College, the wife of the Rev. T. HAYES BELCHER, of a son.

Sept. 27, at Acton Park, Wrexham, Lady CUNLIFFE, of a son, stillborn.

Sept. 27, at Beddles, Lindfield, Sussex, the wife of the Rev. FREDERIC WILLETT, of a son.

Sept. 27, at 4, Tavistock-terrace, Haldon-road, Wandsworth, S.W., the wife of the Rev. EDWARD HARLEY MOLINEUX JACKSON, Senior Curate of Wandsworth, of a son.

Sept. 28, at Dunclutha, Ore, Hastings, Lady COLQUHOUN, of Luss, of a daughter.

Sept. 28, at Bath House, Piccadilly, the Lady ASHBURTON, of a daughter.

Sept. 29, at Wadingham Rectory, the wife of the Rev. W. L. HOLLAND, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Aug. 5, at St. Sepulchre's Church, Auckland, New Zealand, FREDERIC LUARD, youngest son of the late Rev. THOMAS BOOTH WRIGHT, of Broughton Rectory, Lincolnshire, to NELLIE, only daughter of W. J. BALL, Esq., of Mount Eden, Auckland.

Aug. 25, at Preston Capes, Northants, the Rev. PHILIP COOKE, B.A., Queen's College, Oxford, to MARIA ANNE FEERAND, daughter of the Rev. J. HUNT, of Little Preston, late Fellow and Vice-Dean of Queen's College, Oxford, Vicar of Fitchcot Magdalen, Dorset.

Sept 8, by special licence, at St. John's Church, Wynberg, Cape Town, HENRIQUE CHARLES, eldest son of Sir T. SHEPSTONE, K.C.M.G., to FLORENCE ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of R. W. H. GIDDY, late Cape Civil Service.

Sept. 22, at All Saints' Catholic Church, Barton-on-Irwell, TIMOTHY CAREW O'BRIEN, Esq., eldest son of the late Timothy O'Brien, to GUNDRADE, second daughter of Sir HUMPHREY and Lady ANNETTE de TRAFFORD, of Trafford Park, Lancashire.

Sept. 23, at the parish church, Wrotham Kent, the Rev. J. WALTER EWING, B.A., of New College, Oxford, eldest son of the Rev. J. A. Ewing, M.A., Rector of West Mill, R.D. and J.P. for the county of Herts, to ETHELDREDA LAVINIA MARGARET, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. SANDFORD BAILEY, M.A., of Nepicar House, Wrotham, Kent.

Sept. 23, at St. Peter's Church, Belsize-park, ARTHUR JOHN MAY, eldest son of Baron May, Consul General of the Netherlands, to ADELAIDE FRANCES MARY, youngest daughter of Admiral T. V. ANSON, and granddaughter of the late General Sir George Anson, G.C.B., and the late Lieutenant-General Staveley, C.B., Commander-in-Chief of Madras.

Sept. 24, at Tuhochbeg, Huntly, N.B., the Rev. GEORGE WALKER, B.D., Minister of Cassie-Douglas, to MARY, second surviving daughter of WILLIAM MURDOCH, Solicitor, Huntly.

Sept. 24, at St John's, Notting-hill, the Rev. ALFRED SCOTT, Vicar of St. Mary's, Paddington, younger son of John Scott, Esq., of Bickley, Kent, to ANNIE, youngest daughter of JOHN LINTON, Esq., of 61, Ladbroke-road, W.

DEATHS.

At 4, Palmerston-road, Edinburgh, ELIZABETH HORNE, widow of the Rev. HENRY RIDDELL, late Minister of the parish of Duns, N.B., in the 88th year of her age.

Sept. 21, JULIA FRANCES, the beloved wife of the Rev. HENRY FOWLER, aged 48.

Sept. 25, at Kirkliston, St. James's-street, Nottingham, LUCELLA, wife of the Rev. JAMES SMITH, of Wisbech, in her 61st year.

Sept. 25, at Leamington, EMILY, widow of the Rev. FRANCIS JICKLING, Vicar of Donisthorpe, Derbyshire, in her 81st year.

Sept. 26, at her residence, 21, Devonshire-place, Portland-place, after a few days' illness, Her Excellency the Dowager Countess de TORRE DIAZ.

Sept. 28, at Twickenham, Lady HARRIET E WANDESFORDE FOWLER, widow of the late Robert Fowler, Esq., of Rahinston, county Meath, Ireland.

Sept. 29, suddenly, at 23, Norham-gardens, Oxford, SOPHIA SARA, widow of the Rev. THOMAS HENRY STEEL, late of the Grove, Harlow-on-Hill, aged 67.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The new English Church at Aix-les-Bains was on Tuesday consecrated by Bishop Titcomb, among those present being the Countess of Sherborne, Lady Whalley (who has added to the church built by her husband), and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley.

A Boulogne correspondent writes:—"The inhabitants of Salon, a town in the Bouches du Rhône, one of the districts lately visited by the cholera, obtained on its disappearance the Mayor's permission to hold a religious procession of thanksgiving. A statue of their patron, St. Roche, was carried to a neighbouring shrine. The Mayor, however, withdrew his sanction while the procession was *en route*, and the pilgrims were assailed by a mocking crowd and several were arrested by the police. The statue was seized, and has been lodged in the Townhall. It is remarkable that while the epidemic prevailed similar pilgrimages were not interfered with."

ITALY.—The *Times* correspondent at Rome has given some particulars of the Papal mediation in the Caroline question, the political importance of which is recognised in Liberal circles as great:—

"The Pope has obtained the realisation of one of his most cherished objects. He will sit as his predecessors in the middle ages did, to decide between two great European States; and he sees the possibility of the restoration of that power as judge in international questions which they claimed and exercised. The mode of procedure will be regulated by Vatican precedents, of which there is an abundance. The contending parties must first submit full particulars of the grounds of their claims and the documents relating to them. When this has been done the Pope will name a special Congregation of Cardinals to examine into the matter and discuss its merits. The Congregation may, and no doubt will, require new information and many explanations from both sides. Finally, the deliberations of the Congregation will be submitted to the Pope for his decision. This decision will not be necessarily binding on either of the two Powers, but the one to which it may be adverse will be able to accept it without the humiliation of giving way."

On Monday the Pope, assisted by Mgr. Jacobini and other Cardinals, sat and appointed a committee to examine the documents relating to the question.

AUSTRIA.—Opening the session of the Austrian Reichsrath on Saturday, the Emperor announced that Bills would be presented by the Government, including measures relating to the Landsturm reserves, the compromise with Hungary, and the proposed modifications in the Customs tariff, for improving the industries and agriculture of the country, and for the conclusion of fresh commercial treaties with a view to increasing the markets for Austrian exports, and authorising the extension of the local railway system. Bills would also be submitted relating to the conveyance of landed property by succession, providing for the resumption and extension of the codification of the judicial law, together with measures for insuring workmen against accidents and for the conservancy of rivers.

GERMANY.—Official expression has been given by the German Government of its satisfaction with the explanations given by the Spanish Government regarding the recent insult offered to the German Legation at Madrid and the German Consulate at Valencia. The incident is now regarded as entirely closed. All documents bearing upon the question of mediation between Spain and Germany in the Carolines affair were handed to the Pope on Saturday. In addition to Cardinal Jacobini, his Holiness will consult with persons competent to express an opinion on the subject.

SPAIN.—The difficulty arising from the attack made on the German Legation in Madrid and several provincial consulates has been amicably arranged. On the 10th inst. Señor Elduayen sent a note instructing the Ambassador, Count Benomar, to apologise at Berlin for the insults offered by the mobs. It further stated that on the Caroline incident making it likely that the Legation might be endangered precautions were at once taken for its safety, and only failed by reason of the want of energy of the captain of the civil police in charge of the Legation and the police inspectors at the Valencia Consulate. These officials have been suspended and will be prosecuted, as will also sixteen persons concerned in the attack on the Legation. The German Government have accepted the explanation offered, and declared themselves satisfied. The original question is also on the way to settlement, as the Pope has complied with a request to mediate, not arbitrate, on the Caroline Islands question, but under certain reservations.

The violence of the cholera epidemic is steadily subsiding.

TURKEY.—The negotiations between Sir H. D. Wolff and the Porte will be resumed in a day or two, and the British Envoy is expecting the notification of the appointment of the new Turkish delegates.

A young Englishman named Charnaud has been carried off by brigands near Smyrna. They demand £9,000. Another notorious leader with his gang is at present on the hills of the Gulf of Ismidt.

EGYPT.—The Cairo correspondent of the *Times* is of opinion that mainly in consequence of the payment of the indemnities the period of financial difficulty is coming to an end, and that the patient work done during the last few years is beginning to bear fruit:—

"A great portion of the money paid for Alexandria indemnities has been lying idle in the banks of Alexandria, not having been transmitted to Europe. A considerable number of the claims had, no doubt, been sold to Egyptian capitalists, who have reaped a large profit, but not many of the sums received have left the country. The returns of the revenue and expenditure up to the end of July confirm this view of the increased prosperity of the country. The revenue for the first seven months of 1885 amounted to E£4,907,000, against an average for the four previous years of E£4,826,000. On the side of expenditure, leaving aside payments on account of the public debt and of the tribute, as well as extraordinary expenditure, the ordinary expenditure up to the end of July amounted to E£1,919,000, against an average in previous years of E£2,048,000. It appears probable, if the cotton crop prove as large as is now generally anticipated, and if prices do not show a further fall, that instead of having to deal, as was estimated, with a deficit of E£697,000, Mr. Vincent will find himself in possession of a small surplus."

The Kabbabish tribe have seized the Debbah Fort, cutting off the Dervishes' communications with Elkhair, and, joining Abouel at Medgid, have arrived at Merawe, where they are enlisting the villagers. Large reinforcements of Dervishes are at Hafir, thirty miles from Akasheh. The Egyptian outposts are being thrown forward—one as far as Magraka, another on the west bank of the river at Dal. Reinforcements of the Arabs are reported from Dongola. Sennaar is reported to be a great rallying point for deserters from the rebels, the garrison consisting of 10,000 men, dominating the whole country. A messenger has been intercepted, but his message is said to have been that the Sennaar garrison would take care of Khartoum.

A joint Abyssinian and Arab force left Amadib for Kassala on the 15th inst. The garrison have agreed to surrender if they are not relieved by the 30th prox.

BULGARIA.—The reports of extensive warlike preparations in the Balkan peninsula have caused renewed apprehensions that further complications may yet cause the Powers to lose control over the Eastern movement. From Philippopolis it is stated that all men from eighteen to thirty-two are to be enrolled as volunteers, and to hold themselves ready for active service. A telegram from Sofia states that Prince Alexander is busily engaged in despatching troops and volunteers to the Turkish frontier. In Turkey the mobilisation of eighty battalions of the First Class Reserves is being rapidly pushed forward, and orders have been given to the direction of the Turkish railways to prepare carriages for the transport of troops to the Roumelian frontier. Extensive preparations are being made in Servia, where the trains are exclusively reserved for the conveyance of troops and military material, while sixty thousand men of the Landwehr have been summoned to join the colours.

A special correspondent at Varna states that the Russian officers in the Bulgarian service, who resigned by order of their Government, have left off their uniforms and are now walking about in plain clothes. In their stead young Bulgarian captains have been appointed majors and colonels. In case of war the want of experienced generals and field officers is sure to prove a serious obstacle.

The meetings of the Ambassadors to consider the events in Eastern Roumelia are expected to begin to-day (Saturday) or Monday next. There will be no opening sitting, and no formalities such as are usual in a European Conference will be observed, although some regular scheme for the proceedings must, of course, be adopted.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs that no Power has yet advised Turkey to attempt the reconquest of Eastern Roumelia. Every day shows the wisdom of this course, which is understood to coincide with the Sultan's own desires. There are indications that the outbreak of war would at once be followed by a conflagration in several portions of the Turkish Empire. The general opinion in Constantinople, the correspondent adds, is that the real opponent of the union of the two Bulgarias will be the Russian Government. It is probable that its influence will be employed to dethrone the Prince and place a more subservient ruler over united Bulgaria. The *Times* correspondent says:—"With respect to recent events in Eastern Roumelia, the situation as regards Turkey may be summarised in one short phrase—viz., submission to the inevitable."

A correspondent says that by a decree issued last October Prince Alexander of Bulgaria ordered a complete reorganisation of his army, according to which the Bulgarian forces, as put into the field to-day, are composed as follows:—Eight regiments of infantry of three druchinas (battalions) each, armed with Berdan and Kruka rifles, both Russian systems. Each druchina numbers 700 men in peace, and 1,000 on the war footing, giving a total force of 24,000 infantry. The cavalry consists of two regiments of four sotnias (squadrons) and 600 horses each, besides a bodyguard sotnia of 200, or together of 1,400 sabres. The artillery force is composed of two regiments of six field batteries each, which number four guns in peace, and eight on the war footing, or a total of 96 guns of different systems and calibres. Finally, there is a battalion of engineers of four companies, and a well-organised train with well-equipped arsenals. The reserves consist of 24 druchinas of 1,000 men each, besides a final levy of about 6,000 men. Bulgaria can therefore place a total force of somewhat over 60,000 men in the field. The officers in all the superior positions, from the Minister of War down to the commanders of battalions, are Russians. Besides a few captains, all the junior officers are Bulgarians, who have received their military schooling in Russia. The Roumelian militia is composed of 2,892 men of the standing army, 17,271 of the first, and 17,648 of the second levy, besides 22,878 reserves, 305 cavalry men, and four field guns, or a total of about 61,000 men. The scarcity of officers, of whom the Roumelian forces only number 170, and the paucity of cavalry and artillery, coupled with the defective drilling of the reserves, however, detracts greatly from the military value of the Roumelian Army. Bulgaria also possesses a flotilla on the Danube, consisting of five small steamboats, with one, two, or three guns each, and six torpedo steam launches, manned together by a force of eight officers and 240 men. The naval station is Rustchuck.

BOKHARA.—A Russian paper, the *Schems*, states that the Russian Government have been trying to persuade the Ameer of Bokhara to cede the district of Kerki, lying on the further side of the Amu Daria, for a compensation of 3,500,000 roubles. But the aged Ameer, Muzzafer Eddin, demands as the price of the cession the restoration of the holy city of Samarkand, where for over 1,100 years the rulers of Tashkend and Bokhara have been buried. It is not expected that the Ameer's proposal will be listened to.

In East Switzerland the country is flooded, and the Tomba and Tardis bridges have been swept away, whilst the Splugen Pass is completely blocked by snow.

The Dutch Government has suggested to Great Britain and Belgium the conclusion of a treaty for the mutual prevention of traffic in girls, and its proposal has been favourably received by both the Governments in question.

As the result of the inquiry at Copenhagen into the circumstances under which, at a recent political meeting in Jutland, at the instigation of M. Berg, President of the Folkething, the Chief of Police was forced from the platform by MM. Noes and Nielsen, two members of the Left, MM. Noes, Nielsen, and Berg were yesterday condemned to six months' imprisonment, and to pay the whole of the costs, amounting to 730 kroner.

The Montreal authorities, having resolved to enforce vaccination owing to the serious increase of small-pox, there was on Monday a serious riot in the city. Public buildings were attacked, the windows at the residences of doctors and chemists were stoned, and one of them was set on fire. The police were unable to cope with the disturbance, and the troops were called out. At the East end of the city, where the French population mostly reside, the people seemed frenzied with excitement, and threats were heard of an intention to burn down the city. The riots were renewed on Tuesday.

The San Francisco correspondent of the *New York Tribune* reports that well-authenticated accounts of horrible cruelty to Japanese labourers on the Sandwich Islands have been received. It appears that great efforts have been made by the Hawaiian Government to induce Japanese immigration for sugar plantations. Sixty-two persons were sent to plantations in Maui, and their treatment rivals anything told by Abolitionists of inhuman practices in the Southern States before the war. One man, too ill to work, was arrested, marched thirteen miles to prison, and kicked and flogged on the road, dying from the effects of the brutal treatment. The Government was notified, and tried to smooth over matters, but was unsuccessful. Then the Japanese Commissioner was informed, and investigations set on foot revealed a terrible state of affairs—little shelter, long hours of labour, food fit only for hogs, and systematic beating and ill-treatment. It it well known that the Japanese are a most inoffensive race, and give no trouble when treated with ordinary decency. These labourers were immediately removed from the plantation. Out of sixty-two, five died from brutality, and twelve were in hospital from the same cause. This is said to be only a sample case of similar practices.

The *Saigonnais* of July 23, referring to the disturbed condition of Cambodia, states that "on the 16th of that month a column of 150 men, under the command of Captain Montgazon, left Chandoc to reconnoitre along the frontier of Cambodia, and that upon the 18th this column destroyed the fort built by the Puo-Luc-Ké band in the forest near the village of Chao-cung-can-Chum. The band of rebels fled at the approach of the French column, firing a few shots which did not do any injury. At Pursat, Commander Colbert, who had received the submission of nearly all the rebel chiefs of the province, having heard that the former Governor and his second in command had taken refuge in a fort constructed at Loc-Such, above Pursat, set off on the 18th to attack it, and upon the following day his column proceeded to the assault. He met, however, with such a severe resistance that he was obliged to send for reinforcements, but has now succeeded in pacifying the province. Commander Klipfel left Kampot on the 11th of July, with a column of 130 men, to attack the camp of Pic-Boumbi, which was occupied by 200 Chinese rebels, and after a sharp encounter of half an hour in a dense bamboo plantation the position was carried. The Chinese were well armed and had several guns, the camp itself being very well pitched and evidently prepared for the reception of a great chief, probably Yiang-Klipfel. Commander Kepfe destroyed the entrenchment, burnt the huts, and threw the ammunition into the river. Upon the following day he came upon another camp, which had evidently been intended to bar the Wamfort river, but had been evacuated. This he also destroyed. The Governor has decided, at the instance of the French Resident and of Commander Klipfel, to appoint a Cambodian Mandarin of Pnum-Penh, to act as chief of the province of Kampot and to enter into communication with the inhabitants. The priests have asked permission to reoccupy their pagodas, and this has been at once granted to them."

The return of births and deaths in London and twenty-seven other great towns for the week ending last Saturday states that the deaths registered in that period in twenty-eight great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 15·9 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 8,906,446 persons in the middle of this year. In London 2,438 births and 1,081 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 216, and the deaths 355, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 15·8, 15·6, and 15·7 in the three preceding weeks, declined last week to 13·8, which was considerably lower than the rate recorded in any week since the first publication of the Registrar-General's weekly returns. The 1,081 deaths included 3 from small-pox, 15 from measles, 16 from scarlet fever, 18 from diphtheria, 26 from whooping-cough, 14 from enteric fever, 3 from ill-defined forms of continued fever, 49 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 1 from infantile cholera, and not one from typhus: thus 145 deaths were referred to these diseases, being 100 below the corrected average weekly number. The fatal cases of small-pox registered in London, which had been 3 and 6 in the two preceding weeks, declined again last week to 3. These three deaths were exclusive of 8 of London residents who died in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospital Ship.

IRELAND.

On Monday, the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, the Rev. Dr. Reichel was consecrated in the Cathedral Church of St. Patrick, at Dublin, by the Archbishop of Dublin, assisted by the Bishops of Down and Connor and Dromore, who were the presenting and assisting Prelates. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Twigg, Rector of Swords. The new Bishop was attended by the Rev. Francis Swift, Rector of Mullingar; the Rev. James B. Keene, Rector of Navan; and the Rev. Francis Hopkins, Rector of Athboy.

An Irish Crown Prosecutor, in a letter to the *Irish Times*, assures sufferers from the boycotting persecution now prevalent that the present law is amply sufficient to punish the boycotters if people will apply for summonses against them. The necessity for active steps for the repression of this great evil is, he says, increasing daily. In co. Wexford especially the speeches of local agitators and their denunciations of individuals are becoming perfectly intolerable.

The Duhallow National Coursing Club, established for the purpose of coursing over the preserves of landlords in defiance of their wishes, assembled on Sunday at Mushra Mountain, near Mill-street, co. Cork. Three thousand persons coursed the preserves of Mr. William Hutchinson Massey, killing eight hares and twenty-five rabbits. Two stipendiary magistrates, with 150 policemen, were present to preserve the peace, and the names of the prominent trespassers were taken with a view to prosecution. The president of the club, with a large crowd, killed hares in Mr. Massey's demesne in the evening, and then inquired at his house for the owner. Finding him not in, the president left his card.

Judge Ferguson, referring to the state of the county of Cork, on Wednesday, said he was aware, from sources which could not err, that a state of lawlessness exists now such as never before prevailed. The spirit of lawlessness evinced itself in a disregard of human life and a reckless disregard of the rights of private property. No Government deserving of the name could permit such a state of things to continue, and, if it did continue, it would inevitably lead to the passing of a more stringent Coercion Act than had yet been enacted for that unfortunate country.

Two influential meetings were held in Cork on Saturday to give effect to the feeling which prevails among the governing classes of the country that something should be done to check boycotting and its concomitant evils. Both meetings were convened by Lord Bandon, one being an assembly of the magistrates of the county, and the other of the landlords. Although the questions put before each meeting were kept distinct, the objects of the two demonstrations were practically the same. No disposition was shown to embarrass Her Majesty's Ministers; but it was clearly pointed out that the present agitation against rent was assuming a very dangerous attitude. The magistrates, to the number of between seventy and eighty, assembled at noon, and Lord Bandon occupied the chair. For obvious reasons, it was deemed prudent to have the proceedings conducted in the absence of the representatives of the press; but it afterwards transpired that the objects were to favour an association for the purpose of resisting the system of boycotting, as it was applied in the relations between landlord and tenant, and resolutions to that effect were passed. It was also decided to give a determined opposition to any organised demand for a reduction of rent. There was a consensus of opinion that the season was a bad one, having regard especially to the low prices that prevailed; and, while landlords would be prepared to do individually what they could for their tenants, they would not be coerced into action by organised interference.

Reports from Rathkeale, county Limerick, go to show that the constabulary stationed there and in contiguous districts are now experiencing the full force of the boycotting *régime* which has sway in the in the west of the county. A number of the police are engaged in protection duty, watching care-takers in charge of boycotted farms, and for some time past the police have been refused food supplies at any price offered; the result being that the greatest inconvenience is experienced by the authorities, who have to bring stores from Limerick to meet the requirements of the men. At Newcastle West, Mr. Nicholas Darcy, a solicitor, was recently accused of taking a farm from which the previous tenant had been evicted for non-payment of rent, and within the past few days has been ostracised in consequence of notices having been posted in the locality cautioning the people against having any dealings with him. It has transpired that the constabulary authorities in Limerick have received instructions from Dublin Castle for a detailed statement respecting the revived system of boycotting which at present is being extensively practised.

Particulars have reached Limerick of a murder committed at Pallaskenny, in that county. A labourer named Michael Farrell has died from the effects of wounds inflicted upon him by another labourer named James Conway. The parties met on a highway, and Conway struck Farrell a violent blow on the head with a shovel. While he was falling Conway struck him another and a fatal blow. The deceased's son, who was present, did not hear a word exchanged between the men. No motive is assigned for the murder.

Mr. F. H. O'Donnell, M.P., writing from Wurzburg, Bavaria, to the *Freeman's Journal*, announces that his health will not permit him to return to political life for some time to come. Even though his health were restored, he would prefer not to be an actor for some time to come in the Parliamentary game played by Mr. Parnell. He proceeds to attack the policy of Mr. Parnell, and prefers the following charges against Parnellism. He says:—"It has subordinated national action to a policy at Westminster. It has not developed the faculty of free speech, free deliberation, and free administration among the people. It has known no medium between blind adulation and vehement denunciation. It has reduced popular organisation both at home and in America to the mere objects of registration and money subscriptions. It has sapped the very foundation of self-government by an almost unparalleled abuse of the nominee method, preventing even the selection of candidates by constituencies, and controlling by envoys, half

spies, and half dictators, the most legitimate expression of local opinion. It has fostered a deceptive confidence in Westminster legislation by systematically extolling as 'triumphs of the party' the most misleading and worthless or injurious measures—Land Acts, Labourers' Dwellings Acts, Tramway Acts, migration clauses, etc.; and it professes now to believe that mere Parliamentary speaking and voting will enable eighty Irish members to 'master' 600 British. Parnellism has carefully and persistently discouraged and thwarted every branch of political action which lay outside the capacity of five or six individuals."

The report of Dr. Grimshaw, Registrar-General for Ireland, on criminal and judicial statistics for Ireland in 1884 has been issued. It shows that the total number of criminal offences in Ireland during last year increased at the rate of 20·2 per 10,000 persons as compared with 1883. This increase is altogether confined to less serious criminal offences, which have been disposed of summarily. Offences under this head have increased during the year by 7,670, while the more serious offences are slightly less numerous than in 1883. The number of the last-named offences in 1884 was lower than in any year since 1878. The more serious cases have increased in Munster, and decreased in other provinces. The less serious have increased in Leinster, Munster, and Ulster, but decreased in Connaught. The largest number of offences against the person, both absolutely and relatively, were committed in Dublin Metropolitan District; the next largest, in proportion to population, being Cork city. The highest rate for malicious offences against property was in Longford, and the next in Limerick county. The lowest was in Carlow, Cork city, and Tyrone. In the towns of Drogheda, Carrickfergus, and Galway this class of crime was absent. Of the 233,188 persons proceeded against summarily in 1884, there were 35,974 discharged, and 192,214 convicted, as compared with 33,310 and 190,308 respectively in 1883. In Ireland the proportion of police is about 29 in every 10,000 of the people, and the cost of the police force last year amounted to £154,171 less than in 1883.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. J. C. Dundas, the Liberal candidate for the Howdenshire Division of the East Riding of Yorkshire, has seceded from the Liberal party owing to the views put forth in Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto and the recent political utterances of Mr. Chamberlain.

Among other members of the present Parliament who are about to retire are Mr. Newdegate and Sir J. D. Hay.

Lord Dunraven, speaking at Stockport on Monday night, pronounced Mr. Chamberlain's propositions for increasing landed proprietors as the most naked protection in the worst form. If the land be freed as far as possible and not constantly harassed, Lord Dunraven did not despair for the future of the agricultural interest. On free trade there was more humbug talked than ever disgraced any nation. He would like to see revenue duties on all foreign manufactured goods and duties taken off colonial productions. A great cloud had risen in the East, and he hoped England in the next Government might have a crew that would pull together and a man to guide the ship.

Speaking on Tuesday night at a meeting at the Townhall, Bermondsey, in support of the candidature of Mr. A. Lafone, the Conservative candidate for the Bermondsey Division of the borough of Southwark, Mr. E. Clarke, M.P., said the only thing upon which the distinguished members of the Liberal party who had recently been speaking were agreed was in abstaining from a reference to the history of the past five years. It was a prudent abstention, for there was a number of incidents in the Transvaal, in Ireland, at Alexandria, at Souakim, and in Egypt, at Candahar, and in the abandonment and betrayal of Gordon, which must be painful memories to the supporters of the Liberal Government. Sir William Harcourt had been making a violent attack on Lord Iddesleigh for taking part in the Royal Commission on Trade, and had asked if the Commission was a genuine affair or a hocus-pocus. The sarcasm against Lord Iddesleigh fell quite powerless. He was a free trader because that meant fair trade. There were three great questions which had been much discussed lately. Free education, disestablishment of the Church, and the abolition of the House of Lords, and upon all these Mr. Gladstone's language was so vague that there was really no expression of opinion upon them at all. He was attempting to cajole the Whigs and bamboozle the Radicals. The motley crew of Liberals presented this spectacle—that while Mr. Chamberlain advocated free education, Mr. Goschen denounced it; Mr. Labouchere attacked the Church, Lord Hartington defended it; and Professor Rogers attacked the House of Lords, while Sir William Harcourt was its defender. They were a double-faced party, and hoped to win by saying one thing in the counties and another thing in the towns. There was no ambiguity about the Conservative faith. They had to redeem the honour of the country, to substitute firmness for vacillation, and to save Ireland from the perils which had come on her from the effects of the alternative policy of coaxing and threatening adopted by the late Government. Their task was to strengthen and not to destroy the House of Lords by giving it a more real share in the legislative business of the country than a Liberal Government ever allowed it; to strengthen the Church of England by freeing her from those abuses which impeded her usefulness and defaced her system, and which would have been effected long ago had not acrid and narrow-minded sectaries been envious of her energy and strength; and they had to encourage and not thwart education, and to give a sound religious education instead of Godless instruction.

Sir Farrer Herschell, M.P., addressed a largely attended Liberal meeting held at Kendal on Monday night in support of the candidature of Mr. Cropper. After drawing a contrast between Liberal and Conservative administration, much to the disadvantage of the latter, he asked—What were the voters going to do at the next election? The contest that was coming must be a momentous one, and in making their choice he would ask them to be guided by the history of the past. They would see, if they read aright, the work of the Liberal party written in undying characters on the brightest pages of English history. They would see the struggle going on between those who contended for the welfare of the people and those who looked only to class privileges and preferments, and they would see the struggle end in the triumph of the Liberal party, and a general improvement in the tone and condition of the people, who were raised and instructed and made better citizens, more contented, happy, and prosperous, a state of things which would never have been known but for those great reforms which the Tories were fond of calling rash, dangerous, and unworthy.

Speaking at a meeting in the Barrow-in-Furness Townhall on Wednesday, Sir Farrer Herschell referred to speeches recently delivered by Lord Harris at Oldham and Lord Dunraven at Stockport. He thought fair trade and protectionist doctrines were hardly worth examining, but when he found they were being preached by Under-Secretaries of the Government, he could not detach the Government they represented from the advocacy of them. Lord Harris did not propose to put a duty on corn, but suggested what was practically the same thing, only he called it a registration fee. Any tax, no matter what they might call it, would add to the price of both imported and home-grown corn, and would benefit no one but landowners. But Lord Harris said it did not matter if bread were a little dearer if the people were more prosperous. He (Sir Farrer) would like to know where the prosperity was to come from. It might come to the landlords, but he did not think the farmers would derive any advantage, because the higher the price of corn the higher the rent they would have to pay. With regard to the working classes, the higher the price for bread the less they would have to spend on clothing and other necessaries. He maintained that, by putting a duty on corn, it would inevitably ruin the commercial and manufacturing industries of the country, and working men would be the greatest sufferers. But Lord Harris had urged that a registration fee on corn would raise a certain amount of money that might be applied to the relief of local taxation. There again the landlords would get the benefit, because, with a reduction of local burdens, they would be able to demand higher rents. It was true that our vast population compelled us to import very large quantities of corn from abroad, but he impressed upon them the important fact that this corn was brought to this country in British ships, manned by British sailors, and built in British yards by British workmen, and manufactured out of British iron. He (Sir Farrer) did not blame the noble Lord for his views, because he had not had time to think them out. His whole energies and mind had been devoted to the noble and manly game of cricket; but this was hardly the thing to prepare a man for being a statesman. Lord Harris's views were something like his objections to the bowlers in the Lancashire cricket team—some of them were wide, and others were not altogether fair. Sir Farrer also adversely criticised the policy of protection advocated by Lord Dunraven.

Mr. John Morley, M.P., was the principal speaker at a Liberal meeting held on Tuesday night in the Guildhall, Cambridge. He said he had inquired in vain what was the policy against which Liberals had to contend. He believed that as the general election advanced there would be an abundance of Liberal unity and harmony. What would be wanted in the next Parliament, even more than in the present, were acts as well as words. If there had been more spirit on the Liberal side the late Government would never have slipped into what was now admitted to have been the hideous error of their enterprises in the Soudan. They all knew by this time the four points which their leader was gazing on. But he ventured to think pretty confidently that the moment those four points, or some of them, were approached practically, Ministers would be inevitably drawn by public opinion into the direction of Mr. Chamberlain's three points. The imperfectly informed members of the landlord party talked of Socialism. He wondered if they remembered that about twenty years ago, and since, millions of money were bestowed by Act of Parliament and advanced from the Treasury to the landlords of England in order that they might do drainage works, increase agricultural production, and so forth; and some of these landlords actually took that money which the public lent to them, charged their tenants a rent which gave themselves one per cent. net profit on the public advance, and afterwards raised their rents on the strength of the permanent improvement in the land which they had been able to make by the money advanced from the Treasury. They said nothing of Socialism then. If Mr. Chamberlain would bring in a Bill, whenever he and his friends were in power, for the advance of as many millions as he pleased to the landlords, they would say nothing of Socialism and Communism.

Lord Rosebery, addressing a meeting held on Monday night at Reigate by the London and Counties Liberal Union, referred to the political umbrella. In spite of every reproach that that instrument had brought upon his head, he said he still clung firmly to its handle. He was a follower of Mr. Gladstone, and he was proud of it. They had been asked what were the principles they were going to the country on? The answer was that they went to the country on Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto. He had no confidence in the present Government, and he would be no party to keeping it in power. If they gave a Conservative majority at the next election the party would grow worse. The Tory policy, he said, was, as regarded domestic affairs, simply to carry into effect the policy which the Liberals had introduced. He could not make out what the Conservative principles were, or if Conservatives had any. As to the words of the Conservative leaders, he attached to them the same value as they attached to them themselves, which was nothing at all. If he judged by their principles, he had nothing to judge by. For the last five years the Conservatives had lived on a diet of anathema and abuse. To his mind Liberalism consisted in the approaching of public questions with the largest amount of sympathy and the least amount of prejudice—in having for its great object the greatest happiness of the greatest number by practical means. The Manifesto to which he had alluded was almost a judicial utterance. It was free from party passion and party prejudice. It was the impartial discussion of present problems by a man who had the greatest experience of politics of any man now alive. A thing which appeared wise to-day became an anomaly to-morrow and an abuse next week, and if a man wished to keep peace with the Liberal party he must be prepared to view matters with a liberal eye. He ventured to say that no one who had lived for thirty years in this country could have failed to notice that there was now a greater sympathy between all classes than there was thirty years ago. His Lordship went on to notice the chief reforms dealt with in Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto, and referred to the subject of excessive hours of labour. This, he said, was the first and most pressing of all reforms, whether they could touch it or not.

Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, M.P., was the principal speaker at a Liberal demonstration at Maidstone on Saturday evening. He dwelt especially upon the two questions which he considered were the most pressing at the present time—namely, the land laws and local government in rural districts. Under the present system of the land laws there was no hope of labourers becoming owners of their gardens or cottages. There was a great necessity for keeping the labourers at home, and making them, like the majority of their class in other nations, owners of small properties. It was recognised all over Europe that the people were more contented and happy where land was freely distributed, and those who laboured had a hope of rising to better things. With us, however, it had been different, and there was a tendency to conserve the rights of landed property; but what the reformers of the present day wished to do was to reverse all this, and it must be done by public opinion and by necessary laws.

On Saturday afternoon a meeting of Conservatives of the Enfield Division of Middlesex was held in Pymmes Park, the seat of Sir H. Tyler, at Edmonton, for the purpose of furthering the candidature of Viscount Folkestone, M.P., Conservative candidate for the division. Sir Henry Tyler presided. Lord Folkestone, in addressing the assembly, said the Conservative party meant to show the people of this country that the Liberals were not the only people who could pass measures of reform. The Conservatives considered all sections of the population. They did not consider the poor alone, for the rich and moderately rich sections of the community were equally entitled to consideration. He combated the idea put forward by the opposite party that the Conservatives legislated for the rich alone, and did not devote any attention to matters interesting the poor of the country. A retrospective glance at the legislation of the past under the auspices of Conservative Administrations would show this contention to be an utter fallacy.

On Saturday evening Lord Harris, Under-Secretary for India, addressed the annual meeting of the Oldham Conservative Workmen's League. In supporting a resolution which reviewed with satisfaction the policy of the present Government and denounced the vacillating policy of the late Ministry, he said he hardly expected that in so short a time the late Ministry would wash its dirty linen in public. The Liberal Ministry by the recent speeches of its members had condemned itself as having miserably failed in dealing with the affairs of the country. He contrasted the public utterances of Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain, and said that the Manifesto of Mr. Gladstone was full of saving clauses. The difference between the Conservative party and the Radical party was that while the Conservatives moved in concert with public opinion the Radicals wished to push it. The Tory party was united and determined to carry out what the people really wished for, whereas the Opposition was divided, and for that reason was unable to carry out the promises in which they had so freely indulged. He remarked upon the unanimity with which the Liberal leaders had shirked the depression in trade. He referred to Mr. Jesse Collings's Small Holdings Bill as being the panacea offered by the Radical party for the cure of the depression, and said that if it was carried it would take years before the land could be divided into small holdings through its agency. He thought it was the duty of the Commission of Inquiry into the depression in trade to inquire into the relative advantages of fair trade and free trade. He suggested the re-imposition of the registration duty on foreign wheat which was taken off in 1869, and considered that the increase of the duty on tea would further tend to an improvement of home agriculture.

Speaking at a Conservative meeting at Paisley on Wednesday, Lord Harris said all Europe was waiting the result of the coming election in order to ascertain whether this country was to be ruled by a Radical or a Conservative Government. The interests of our country were so much interwoven with those of so many other nations that it was impossible to pursue a policy of non-intervention. It was absolutely necessary that new markets should be found for British trade, and that we should not lose a chance whenever it presented itself to effect that object. The late Government had been regardless of this, both with the Cameroons and in New Guinea, and had allowed Germany to step in and secure that which Britain should have had. Regarding British interests in India, he expressed the belief that Lord Randolph Churchill was justified in every word he said about Lord Ripon's policy in that country, as the latter had totally ignored the protection of the North-Western frontier.

Lord George Hamilton, M.P., First Lord of the Admiralty, addressing a meeting of the members and friends of the Chiswick Conservative Association on Thursday night, in the Vestry Hall, Chiswick, criticised Mr. Chamberlain's plan of solving the social problems that would be presented to the new Parliament. Did any man suppose, he asked, they could restore to prosperity, and raise the wages, and secure a certain sustenance to the great masses of this population by going back to obsolete methods of culture, and by sending tens of thousands of people into little plots of land in the country? The thing was absolutely impossible. What alone could maintain the commerce, trade, and manufactures of this country in a satisfactory condition was those who were at the head of affairs pursuing such a policy abroad as would absolutely provide for the protection of that commerce and that trade. It was no use any party, however well intentioned, coming forward and pretending to the British elector that it could place his fellow working men in a position of permanent prosperity unless it undertook to conduct the external affairs of this country in such a manner as to ensure the full protection of trade and its free expansion. The Conservatives had only been a short time in office, and they had succeeded in successfully solving several of the difficulties bequeathed to them by the late Government. In Egypt they had done great service to the English taxpayer, because they had already succeeded in issuing a loan which placed Egypt in a condition of solvency; and, being placed in that position, we were then able to go on with those reforms the full development of which would enable them ultimately to withdraw the troops which are now stationed there; and in proportion as they withdrew the troops they were lessening the strain on the English taxpayer. The Liberal Government no doubt got the power to make the loan, but the relation between that Government and the Great Powers was such that the latter declined to give their assent to it. The Conservatives had established cordial relationships with them, and their assent was given. With regard to the Afghanistan frontier question, they had brought a discreditable epoch in English history to a successful termination. One of the most pressing and serious questions to which the next Parliament would give their attention would be the maintenance of the Union between England and Ireland. He believed that anything which tended to endanger that Union would produce a condition of things that must lead to disaster and civil war; that Union was maintained by adopting such a policy as would bring home to the English and the Irish that it was to their interest that it should exist.

The annual meeting of the National Liberal Federation was held at Bradford on Thursday, Mr. Alderman Kenrick, chairman of the committee, presiding. The report expressed satisfaction at the inclusion of the question of registration in Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto. Something more, the report stated, might be done to diminish the existing chaos in the law of registration, but entire simplicity and perfect equality could only be arrived at by the adoption of the principle of one man one vote. The educational operations of the Federation have been greatly extended, and the staff of lecturers increased. Resolutions in favour of an amendment of the land laws, recognising the importance of free schools, the early passing of a measure of local government, and the disestablishment and disendowment of the English and Scotch Churches were passed. In connection with the annual conference of the Federation, Mr. Chamberlain addressed a great Liberal meeting at night. He twitted the Government with having adopted the Liberal programme, and said the best specific against obstruction was to put the Tory-Irish party on the Treasury Bench, where they would be carefully watched by the Liberal majority. He should never be surprised to see them adopting the measures which he had advocated and which were called extreme, for they had already taken all the measures out of the Opposition boxes. He referred to the revolution in Eastern Roumelia, which, he said, was a bitter humiliation for Lord Salisbury, and regretted that Parliament was not sitting, so that the policy of the Government might be ascertained. The Ministers who had spoken since the disturbance broke out had failed to give any satisfactory explanation of their views or any clear indication of the course they intended to adopt. "Peace with honour" had become a by-word, and we should, said Mr. Chamberlain, be glad to secure peace at any price. He next spoke of the many measures which had been passed to alleviate the condition of the working classes, and pointed out that there is still much more to be done.

Lord Edward Cavendish, M.P., spoke on Thursday night at a large meeting of electors at Longford, near Derby. He said: Some Conservative candidates were expressing Radical views which it would be impossible for them to maintain, as the leaders of the party to which they belonged would certainly put their veto upon such aspirations if those who enunciated them were returned to Parliament. With regard to the land question, he was in favour of facilitating its dispersal into the hands of a greater number by cheapening its transfer. He deprecated some of the schemes of Mr. Chamberlain on the grounds that they were of a vague character, and only raised hopes in the minds of the masses which could never be realised. He was in favour of Sunday closing, but opposed to disestablishment of the Church. An improvement was required in our system of county government. The abolition of the Oaths Bill was another measure that would receive his support, but he should not like to pledge himself in favour of free education. A good deal had been said about the rupture in the Liberal party, but if they looked back they would find that there always had been some who were inclined to advance faster than others. At one time Mr. Bright was as much abused as Mr. Chamberlain is to-day, still the fact remains that there was probably not a single measure or scheme for the advancement of which Mr. Bright had once been so much abused but had become law.

The decision of the Revising Barrister at Oxford against the undergraduates' vote is a blow dealt by one of the University's own household, and his colleague at Cambridge has followed the lead. The Oxford judgment exhibits high powers of humorous description; but the question as to the tenancy of an undergraduate is not whether he is "the tenant familiar to English life," but whether he is in law a tenant. "Tenant," like "tenement" and "tenure," is a term of the strictest technicality, and the claimant need only satisfy the purely technical requirements of the word. If an undergraduate paying rent for his rooms is not a tenant, what is he? The law does not recognise the *status pupillaris* in persons of full age, and any restrictions there may be on the use of the rooms are in law purely matter of contract. The real difficulty in regard to the undergraduate's vote is whether he has "during the whole of the twelve calendar months preceding July 15 been an inhabitant occupier" of his rooms. If by the terms of his contract with the college he is not entitled to occupy his rooms during the vacations, he does not occupy during the whole of the year. Seeing that the undergraduate pays rent for the whole of the year and has his furniture in the rooms during the vacations, there is a presumption against any such term in his tenancy; but the success or failure of the appeals will turn largely on the terms in which the facts are found in the cases stated.—*Law Times.*

Mr. A. Taylor Innes, of Edinburgh, having written to Mr. Chamberlain with respect to Dr. Cameron's proposed resolution for the disestablishment of the Scottish Church, Mr. Chamberlain has replied as

follows :—"So far from thinking that it would be premature in the friends of Scottish disestablishment to bring forward a motion on the subject in next Parliament, I have, on the contrary, always assumed that they would take this course in the first session, and that the debate and vote upon such a resolution would be conclusive as to the general direction of Scottish opinion. The words in my speech at Glasgow which you quote had reference only to the final settlement of this important subject, and you will understand that I did not absolutely exclude the possibility of its being dealt with in the next Parliament, although, having regard to the very important subjects with which it will in the first place be called upon to deal, I am not sanguine that it will be able also to crown the edifice of religious equality. My hope, however, and my belief, confirmed as they have been by the experience of my recent visit, are that such an expression of opinion will be obtained as will justify the leaders of the Liberal party in giving the question of Disestablishment a prominent place in any future programme."

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH AT SALISBURY.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on Wednesday evening, addressed in the Market House at Salisbury, a large Conservative meeting convened by the South Wilts Constitutional Association. Lord Folkestone, M.P., occupied the chair. Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH claimed that the Government had done something to soothe the irritation which the preceding Government had excited on the continent of Europe, and had passed useful measures of legislation which in their hands had fallen into arrear. He ridiculed the Liberals for holding themselves up as models of a Parliamentary Opposition. Being in office, the Conservatives intended to do their duty by the country without much regard to Radical opinions. Turning to the revolt in Eastern Roumelia, he said :—"I don't think any one will contend that solemn obligations which have been entered into by all the European Powers can be allowed to be altered except by the consent of those who originally entered into them ; and yet in this matter what seems to have been too often the one and only thought presenting itself to the Radical mind is that, Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury being largely but by no means solely responsible for this particular portion of the Treaty of Berlin, it was a kind of Radical triumph over Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury that that provision should be violated. That is not the view with which we look at this question. Our aim and object in dealing with it will be this. As it at present stands, in our estimation it is not a matter in which this country is specially concerned beyond any other of the signatory Powers; but we shall attempt, in concert with the other European Powers, to confine the area of any possible disturbance, and to arrive at such a solution as may best be consistent with justice, and with that which is the highest interest of England—the maintenance of European peace."

On the condition of Ireland, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach admitted with regret the grave fact that boycotting is rife in many parts of Ireland, and has been increasing during the last few weeks; but he held that it would be an absurd exaggeration to suppose that there is any real increase of crime in Ireland, or that the condition of that country is anything like what it was in the unfortunate years of 1880 and 1881. Replying to Sir William Harcourt's allegation that the Government are reluctant to act against boycotting, he said :—"Prosecutions have been instituted, and are now being instituted, against persons who are supposed to be guilty of this offence of boycotting ; and I can assure you that no efforts will be spared on the part of the Government to conduct these prosecutions to a successful conclusion, so as to punish the guilty and to institute prosecutions in all cases where any evidence can be found to justify them. And I am glad to add to that statement that there are signs that that course will meet with the support of public opinion in Ireland itself, We hope by those means, and also by some kind of counter-combination against those forms of boycotting which cannot be dealt with by any law in the world, to put a stop to this evil. But if those means do not succeed, we must look for others ; the law must be upheld. A combination against it could not be allowed to succeed."

Sir Michael then proceeded in the greater part of his speech to answer Mr. John Morley's comments on Lord Carnarvon, and to discuss Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto and the declarations of other Liberal statesmen on the main points of that document. He complained, in particular, that "to read Mr. Gladstone's address you would suppose that the existence of any depression in agriculture had never so much as entered his mind ;" and he criticised at some length Sir William Harcourt's views as to what should be done for the agricultural labourers. But what is the platform of the Liberal party ?

"Lord Rosebery said on Wednesday that the Liberal party were going to appeal to the country on Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto—on a document which is the merest travesty of history, and which, as to the future, I will venture to say is as vague and unintelligible as any document that ever was penned. Now I think that it would be well that the electors of this country, instead of allowing themselves to be hoodwinked by such a dodge as this, should make careful and searching inquiry from those Liberal candidates who may ask for their votes as to what course they will take on particular questions of great and important interest. Let me suggest to you two. I should like every Liberal candidate in the country to be asked to say 'Yes' or 'No' to these two questions : 'Will you or will you not disestablish and disendow the Church ?' 'Will you or will you not maintain the hereditary principle in the House of Lords ?'"

And what of the Conservative programme ?

"Well, I quite admit that we are not prepared with sensational promises. We are perhaps not even prepared to put anything before the electors out of which political capital can be made. We are certainly not prepared to descend to that meanest form of bribery—to purchase the votes of a class without the expense of a single penny to the purchasers at the cost of another section of the community. We are prepared to reform abuses in Church and State, and not to destroy either. We desire to maintain in this country the security of property with which England has long been blessed, because we believe it to be essential to the happiness and well-being of all classes, and especially of the working men, and we will do what we can to promote the welfare of the working man in his home and in the conditions of his work, helping those who cannot help themselves, but enabling those who can help themselves to do so. We will resist proposals which we believe to be dangerous and destructive to society in this country."

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT AT BLANDFORD.

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT on Monday evening addressed at Blandford a meeting of electors convened by the Dorset Liberal Association. After a humorous reference to the coming Conservative demonstration at Sherborne, he sarcastically justified Lord Iddesleigh's use of double negatives on the ground that the Conservative policy was not of an affirmative character. Discussing free trade and fair trade, he asserted that in the palmy days of protection the condition of the Dorset labourer was a shame and a disgrace to a civilised country. Since the days of free trade forty years ago, the population had nearly doubled, and how could the people have lived under the old system ? Tories said the country had become poorer under free trade ; but look at the income-tax returns, savings banks, and probate, legacy, and succession duties, as well as the diminution of pauperism and crime. They might depend on it that this fair trade agitation was really directed to higher rents and greater profits, but meant to the people less food, dearer clothes, and worse houses. However, they could not do much harm now. But once give them a majority—why, then look out. Turning to the land question, he asked why was there a land question at all ? No one was satisfied—landlords doleful, farmers ruined, and labourers dissatisfied. What he wanted to aim at was that each agricultural labourer should have a home of his own, that he should not be at the mercy of his bare wages from week to week, that he should have a place to live in in which he and his family might remain, and from which he could not be turned out, and that when he died he might feel, as all desired to feel, that he left a home behind him. But if anybody proposed anything of this kind he was at once termed a Socialist. He was called Jack Cade and other complimentary terms. Even the mild Lord Iddesleigh had a fling at Mr. Chamberlain, and said at Aberdeen the other day that "Mr. Chamberlain is going to restore the labourer to the land." Well, not a very bad thing either. What was it that had been proposed ? Why, that local authorities should acquire land at a fair price from the owner. That was not Socialism, that was not plunder. And it was further proposed that land so acquired should be let or otherwise disposed of to the inhabitants. That principle had been the law for sixty years. There was an Act still law which enabled the local authorities to purchase, it was true not by compulsion, small quantities—twenty or fifty acres—and to let them in allotments to the poor. Then, why was that to be called Socialism ? Why was it to be called plunder ?

Having next touched on the liquor question and the reform of the House of Lords, Sir William Harcourt declared his firm belief that the next election would confide to the hands of Mr. Gladstone the mandate of carrying out a Liberal policy, with increased power against Parliamentary obstruction. The present Government were tenants-at-will of Mr. Parnell—a hard taskmaster. He need not remind them of that debate on the Maamtrasna massacre. Verily the Tories were now having their reward. Mr. Healy wished to keep them in office because they were the slaves of his "ring." The Government boasted that they would govern Ireland by the ordinary law. He wished to heaven that that boast could have been made good. They said Ireland was tranquil. If so, what a testimony to Lord Spencer ! But what was the condition of the country now after they had been three months in office ? Outrages and boycotting were rapidly increasing. The law as it stood had stopped, practically stopped, boycotting ; but it had revived, and it had now become almost universal. What was the attitude of the Government in the presence of this great and growing evil ? It was one, so far as he could see, of abject submission. They did not dare to act ; they hardly ventured to speak. Why ? They dared not offend the men upon whose votes they counted at the next election or in the next Parliament. But it had been a foolish calculation. They might gain these votes, but they had lost the confidence and the respect of the nation.

The foreign policy of the Government was also showing itself in its true light. The great achievement of the separation of Eastern Roumelia had "gone smash." The thing upon which they prided themselves had disappeared at the first puff of wind. It had turned out to be a jerry building, erected by incapable architects upon unsound foundations. Certainly no such fall had been seen as that of Lord Salisbury and his foreign policy since the day of Humpty Dumpty. Hostility itself was disarmed in the presence of such an irreparable disaster. If there was going to be a European scramble in Turkey he hoped to God that England would have nothing to do with it. In conclusion, he appealed to the electors not to give their support to a party which had so signally failed.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD EXPENDITURE.

A meeting was held yesterday week at the Westminster Palace Hotel to confer on the question of the London School Board extravagance. Representatives attended from local boards and working-men's clubs. The chairman (Mr. Johnson, secretary of the Metropolitan Ratepayers' Association), stated that they were on the eve of electing a new School Board at a time when there had been a most extravagant expenditure. Mr. W. E. Forster told them that the school rate was never to exceed 3d. in the pound, but it had gradually risen to 9d., with an indebtedness of £5,000,000. The total cost for the year for the London School Board was £1,300,000, and the school fees in round numbers were only £107,000, or a twelfth part of the total cost of education. The solicitor to the Board had £1,200 a year and 5 per cent. upon the money paid for every site. ("Shame !") The teachers' salaries were too high ; and contracts were made without advertising for tenders. Whilst he was in favour of free education he would have no increase in the rates. He advocated the reduction of the rate to 6d. in the pound, and throwing the balance on the Consolidated Fund, so that the whole rate would not fall upon the householder to the exclusion of the lodger. Then they must at once put a stop to teachers exerting themselves to return candidates who would increase their salaries. Mr. G. Dodson then moved :—

That this conference is of opinion that the amount of the London School Board rate has grown with such alarming rapidity of late years as a result of extravagance and mismanagement in administration, that it is imperative upon the ratepayers at the next ensuing election to return candidates pledged to at least a limitation of future School Board rates, a reduction of officers' and teachers' salaries to their proper market level, the substitution of open for close contracts, and improved system of selecting sites and to greater economy of administration generally.

Mr. J. F. Blennerhassett, of the Clerkenwell Ratepayers' Association, seconded the motion, advocating the limitation of School Board education to the three R's. Other resolutions, carrying out the views expressed by the chairman, were passed, and a committee formed to take such action as they might deem necessary to give effect to their views.

A conference of rating authorities, convened by the Vestry of St. James's, Westminster, was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Westminster Townhall, for the purpose of considering what action (if any) it might be expedient to take in view of the approaching election of the School Board, and of adopting such measures in the matter as might be determined. Mr. T. J. White, member or the Metropolitan Board of Works, was called to the chair. Letters were read from, among others, the Right Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., who stated that he was unable to take a very active part in the arrangements for the election. He added :—"If it were possible to divide Westminster into five distinct sections, and to start an economical candidate for each section, you would, I think, have a very fair prospect of carrying your men." Mr. Winnett, of St. James's Vestry, moved the first resolution :—

That the expenditure of the School Board for London is largely in excess of the real requirements of the case, and it is therefore desirable to secure the return at the approaching election of candidates prepared to inaugurate and support the carrying into effect of the reform now urgently needed in the administration and expenditure of the School Board for London, and to administer the Elementary Education Act with economy.

He condemned the lavish expenditure and waste of money which was taking place, more especially with reference to building sites. As to teachers, they employed 1,189 over and above what was necessary or compulsory by Act of Parliament. The cost of administration was entirely out of proportion with that of any other Board. Mr. Hearne followed, and referred to the Horseferry-road School, which he considered the most expensive school in London. One of the great things needed was the extension of the powers of managers. The misapplication of the endowments of London also needed consideration. With all due respect to the ladies on the Board, he considered them in the wrong place. He seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously. Mr. Spink, of the Westminster Board, moved a resolution to the effect that all the candidates of the Westminster Division be invited to attend an adjourned meeting of this conference, to be held in October at the Townhall, for the purpose of answering questions, and that candidates be then approved and recommended to the ratepayers for support. As to putting more power into the hands of managers, he considered this impossible, as they were only dummies overridden by the central authority. He considered, however, that a number of expensive clerks at headquarters might be dispensed with and their work done by the local managers. Mr. Hollis, Westminster Board, seconded the resolution. After some remarks from Messrs. Finch and Whinney, of St. George's, Hanover-square, the resolution was agreed to. Further resolutions were adopted that the Parliamentary division should be divided into five sections for the purpose of securing the election of five candidates ; to appoint a committee to select candidates for consideration by the conference on the 6th of October, and that such candidates should be invited to attend the conference ; that subscriptions be opened for the purpose of defraying the expenses of meetings, &c. ; and that a standing committee be appointed to make a selection of candidates and to act in accordance therewith.

THREE LONDON PARISHES.

The *Athenæum*, in the course of an interesting review of Dr. Freshfield's privately printed extracts from the parish books of St. Margaret Lothbury, St. Christopher-le-Stocks, and St. Bartholomew-by-the-Exchange, in the City of London, says :—

"The three parishes treated of are situated in the very heart of the City of London. The Bank of England has absorbed the whole of St. Christopher's and a considerable portion of the other two parishes. The full name of St. Christopher's parish was obtained from its proximity to the City stocks, which stood on the site of the Mansion House. The church was damaged by the Great Fire, rebuilt by Wren, and pulled down in 1780 to make room for the enlargement of the Bank of England. The private drawing office of the Bank stands upon the site of the church, and the garden in the centre of the building is the churchyard. This was the first church which was destroyed in the City after the Fire. The parish books consist of vestry minutes, churchwardens' accounts, and registers of births, deaths, and marriages ; also a book of records, containing copies of all sorts of miscellaneous parish documents, among which is a curious list, made in the year 1488 by the churchwardens (occupying thirty-five pages), of all the ornaments of the church in the year 1483, with notes of their sale in the reign of King Henry VIII., and the prices they fetched opposite some of them.

"The registers commence with the first year of Queen Elizabeth (1558), and the churchwardens' accounts in 1575. There are two entries connected with the rejoicings at the death of Mary, Queen of Scots. The first runs as follows : 'Item, paide for ringing when Babington with thother traytors were apprehended and weare takenn, and also when the queen of scotts was behedded.' The word 'behedded' is here struck through with a pen, and the words 'proclamed conspirator to ye queen and our realme' substituted. The ringers were more worthily employed 'when my lord of essex came whom from Calles.' Dr. Freshfield seems to think that a mistake has been made here, and that the names Calais and Cadiz have got somehow mixed up ; but if he will refer to Percy's 'Reliques' he will find the ballad entitled 'The Winning of Cales,' that being the ordinary English corruption of Cadiz. 'A knight of Cales' was one of the sixty knighted by Essex after the taking of Cadiz, who, from their number, were treated with somewhat scant courtesy, in spite of the national rejoicings at the victory over the Spaniards. One of the most distinguished inhabitants of this parish was the philosopher Thomas Harriot, the companion of Raleigh in his voyage to Virginia and in his subsequent imprisonment in the Tower. Harriot died in the parish in 1622. A point worth noting in respect to the registers is the number of foundlings among the births, many of these being named Christopher, and the record of the deaths of almost all the chief inhabitants of the parish in the Great Plague.

"The church of St. Bartholomew-by-the-Exchange, or St. Bartholomew-the-Little, or St. Bartholomew-the-Little-behind-the-Royal-Exchange, was burnt in the Great Fire, rebuilt by Wren, and pulled down in 1840, when the new Royal Exchange was built. A new church, in part a copy of the old one, was erected near the Moorgate-street Railway Station. The first entry in the vestry minutes is dated 1567. There is an amusing memorandum during the incumbency of Dr. Robert Hill, who was rector from 1614 to 1623. On one occasion the doctor gave two shillings 'to two poor Turks, turned Christians.' When the auditors came to this item they disallowed it, and wrote, 'Whereas there is a charge in this account given to two poor Turks, which he should not have done, 2s., which sum is deducted.'

"The church of St. Margaret Lothbury still exists. The original building was burnt in the Fire, and the present one was erected by Wren. From the vestry minutes we learn that four shops beneath the church were built about 1660, and from an old view it appears that shops were also built on to Wren's church in the same way. The first entry in the vestry minutes is dated 1571. Some fanciful etymologies have been given of the name Lothbury, but there is still room for a satisfactory one. Dr. Freshfield makes a happy guess. He suggests 'that both Lothbury and Ludgate are derived from the word *lode*, which in some parts of England still means a cut or drain leading into a larger stream. In both these cases the name would be appropriate, for Ludgate leads into the Fleet ditch or river, and Lothbury runs over the course of the Wall brook.'

"The principal resident in St. Margaret's parish during the Civil Wars was Serjeant Pheasant, who was Recorder of London ; and the chief man in St. Bartholomew's parish was Mr. (afterwards Sir) Harbottle Grimston. St. Christopher's boasts of Lord Mayor Isaac Pennington, well known as a foremost actor in the various scenes of the Rebellion. Upon November 26th, 1642, about a month after the battle of Edgehill, a Gravesend boat was reported as having been caught shooting London Bridge by the Parliament pinnaces that lay above bridge for the guard of the City and Parliament. On board was said to be found a gentleman who carried a letter, supposed to be written by Colonel Goring, giving a detailed account of the supplies of men and money expected by the King from Holland and Denmark. This letter was ordered to be read in all the churches in the City, and Pennington, by direction of the Committee of both Houses, proceeded to raise £30,000 for the pressing needs of the army. This move did much to decide the waverers in the City, and actually gave a fresh impetus to the war. Dr. Freshfield believes the whole story of the Gravesend boat was a fabrication, and by its means Pennington managed to do two things—first to frighten the citizens out of their money for the purposes of the war, and secondly to compromise them by making them by their subscriptions parties to the rebellion.

"The next event of importance in the parishes as well as in the entire country was the signing of the Solemn League and Covenant. Humphrey Tabor, the minister of St. Margaret's, refused to sign the Covenant, and was imprisoned in the King's Bench, while his wife and family were turned out of the rectory house with circumstances of great brutality. Leonard Cox took his place, and subsequently made his parishioners sign some extra covenants of his own. Although the parishioners did not oppose the action of the ruling powers, they were evidently not enthusiastic for the new views. At St. Bartholemew's a subscription was opened in 1643 to succour Sir Thomas Middleton, the General for the six counties of North Wales ; but although Lady Middleton put down £50 the total amount collected was not more than £59 13s. 4d. The stringent regulations respecting the admission of the Lord's Supper were so unpopular that the parishioners desired Mr. Cawton, the clergyman, to administer the sacrament as of old.

"The congregations did not care for the ministers thrust upon them. The well-known Philip Nye, whose "thanksgiving beard" was celebrated by Butler, was illegally appointed by Cromwell to St. Bartholemew's, and Nye delegated Mr. John Loder as minister. Neither was acceptable to the people. When General Monck came to London in 1659, Mr. Loder obtained a letter from him to the Commissioners of the Great Seal, asking that the living should be given to Loder if they considered Mr. Nye's appointment by Cromwell invalid. The parish, on hearing of this, made sufficient interest to obtain a second letter from General Monck reversing the first."

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

A NEW RUBENS.

The *St. James's Gazette* and the Directors of the National Gallery have got into a friendly controversy on the subject of the new Rubens. Our contemporary observed :—

"Rubens was a great colourist—no doubt the greatest colourist outside Venice; but he seldom shows to better advantage than in the comparatively quiet works in monochrome which hang in a few favoured galleries. There is one at Dulwich—a "Three Graces Dancing"—inspired, perhaps, by Raphael's picture, which again was inspired by the famous antique at Sicna; and there is now another in the National Gallery, hung by itself in the great Flemish Room. It was bought a few weeks ago at the Beckett-Denison sale. It is an oval design on panel, apparently for a silver salver. Curiously enough, on one reading of the subject, it too may, like the Dulwich Graces, be referred to the example of Raphael. Sir Frederick Burton has preferred to see in it a "Birth of Venus;" but it may quite as well be a "Galatea," as it has often been called. The central motive is a group of sea-nymphs making their way shorewards on a shell drawn by dolphins. On the left a cliff rises; on the right and all round the border tritons, nereids, and sea-horses disport themselves. Adhering closely to the description in Politian's "Giostra," Raphael produced a masterpiece in the "Galatea" of the Farnesina, which, so far as the details of the subject go, might be described in the same words as this more modest creation of Rubens. Politian recounts how Galatea stood on her sea-borne car and guided her team of dolphins; while her companions, the nereids and tritons, gambolled about her and laughed at the clumsy court-ship of Polyphemus, who bawled his love from the shore. To this description the designs of Raphael and Rubens are strictly faithful, except that they both leave the Cyclops to be supplied by our imagination. On the other hand, looked at as a "Birth of Venus," the panel of the Fleming would be an anomaly. Venus had no *cortège* of sea-monsters. The sea was an accident in her career. As she stepped ashore she left it behind for good; and so Art has always treated it as the merest accessory in pictures of her birth. On the whole, the balance of evidence is in favour of the picture being a "Galatea"—and a "Galatea" based upon the work of Raphael rather than upon the lines of Politian or of any other writer. In either case it is a most welcome addition to our national collection. Here and there an ungraceful passage is to be found in it, as in the contour of the nymph upon a dolphin low down on the left; but in rhythm of line and in the general refinement with which the full forms of the women are treated it shows Rubens, on the whole, at his very best."

To this Sir Frederick thus replies :—"Your remarks in the *St. James's Gazette* of the 17th ult. upon a work by Rubens recently added to the National Gallery are so appreciative and valuable that I only regret we should differ on the question of the subject represented in that work. As this is a matter of some general interest, perhaps you will allow me to say a few words in justification of the title which, not without due heed, I have given to this charming example of the great Fleming's versatile genius. Considered by itself, without reference to any outward evidence, the subject of the composition is, no doubt, so far dubious that it might pass almost as well for a 'Triumph of Galatea,' as a 'Birth of Venus.' At the same time, I do not quite follow the course of your reasoning in support of the former title: since it assumes that Rubens in making this design had in mind Raphael's famous 'Galatea;' that the two designs are essentially similar in details; and that both are 'strictly faithful' to Politian's description, 'except that they both leave the Cyclops to be supplied by our imagination.' Here, I venture to think, you have allowed yourself to be deceived by a prepossession. The details of the two compositions differ considerably. In the Farnesina fresco Galatea does, indeed, stand in her shell-car and guide her team of dolphins; but in Rubens's design there are no dolphins to guide. In the one compositions the principal personage is well conscious of her position, and smiles at the efforts of the little flying amorini who aim their shafts at her. In the other, she only lifts her still moist tresses in the unconcious pride of divinity and beauty, and suffers the eager nereids to urge her shell-boat (not a wheeled one as in the 'Galatea') to the strand. It has already touched the shore, and one nymph presses forward to disembark. But Galatea, we know, kept well to seaward of her uncouth lover. If Polyphemus is absent from the fresco, we may account for this by the fact that only a 'triumph' and not a dramatic incident is there intended, and by the probability that in any case the introduction of the one-eyed monster would have suited neither Raphael's sense of beauty nor the shape and dimensions of the space at his command. On the other hand, the non-appearance of the Cyclops in the design by Rubens rather favours the belief that his subject was not a 'Galatea,' since it would have been quite in his taste and compatible with the lengthened form of his composition to bring in the monster. You say that 'Venus had no *cortege* of sea monsters;' that 'the sea was an accident in her career,' &c. But you have momentarily forgotten that in one of her many phases of universal sway she was eminently a sea-deity, daughter of the personified Thalassa, and in that capacity was worshipped and propitiated by fishermen, mariners, and travellers by sea. With the Greeks she was θαλασσία, πελαγία, ποντία, γαληναία, εὐπλοία. Nor are instances wanting in ancient literature to show that at the birth of Aphrodite from the foam she was attended by exultant tritons and all other mythical dwellers of the sea. On the pedestal of the statue of the Olympian Zeus, Pheidias representing her rising from the waves, received by Erōs, and crowned by Peitho (Pausanias V., c. 11). And here I must score a point in favour of my view of the subject of Rubens's design. For there Cupid, with a flaming torch, hovers just over the head of the chief figure, while a female divinity, Peitho without doubt, sweeps downwards to place a garland on her head. This coincidence with the description by Pausanias can scarcely be accidental. In our design, too, as in Botticelli's exquisite 'Birth of Venus' in the Uffizi, the Winds strain their cheeks to blow the lovely child of ocean towards the shore. Further, in the magnificently composed border of the *grisaille* we find cupids sporting with swans, birds especially sacred to Venus. Rubens had in fact thoroughly thought out his subject.

"The arguments adduced above would alone, I think, justify the title I have given to our design. But another has yet to be brought forward which, taken with the rest, seems to me to place the question beyond the reach of doubt. The salver or dish, together with a ewer to accompany it, were designed by Rubens for Charles I., to be executed in silver. These facts we learn from an extremely scarce old etching by Jacob Neffs, of which M. Henri Hymans gives a phototype in his *Histoire de la Gravure dans l'Ecole de Rubens*. On this plate the dish and ewer are both figured, the subject on the ewer being also drawn out in the flat. Here we have the 'Judgment of Paris,' when Venus receives the apple of victory. It seems, therefore, more than reasonable to conclude that the composition on the salver relates to the same goddess, and displays her triumphant first appearance on the astonished earth. The etching by Neffs is known by the title of 'L'Aiguière de Charles I.' Only two perfect copies of it exist—one at Amsterdam, the other at Haarlem. It bears the inscriptions *P. P. Rubens pinxit pro Carolo I., Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ Regi—Theodorus Rogiers celavit argento—Jacobus Neffs aqua forti fecit.*

"A *grisaille* by Rubens of the subject on the ewer must have existed, perhaps still exists—let us hope so. As to the silver articles, they must have long since found their way to the melting-pot. The heathenish figures upon them would have shocked the chaste eyes of the Puritans. But the precious metal itself, coined into shillings, would not have quarrelled with aught in the righteous pockets of the Ironsides."

THE SAFETY OF RAILWAY BRIDGES.

The following remarks were made on this subject by the President of the Mechanical Science Section of the British Association, Mr. B. Baker, M.I.C.E. Alluding to the existing practical rules respecting the strength of metallic bridges, he said :—

"The first question obviously is, What are the rules adopted by engineers and Government departments at the present time?—and it is one not easily answered. I have for some time past been receiving communications from leading Continental and American engineers, asking me what is my practice as regards the admissible intensity of stress on iron and steel bridges, and in replying I have invited similar communications from themselves. As a result I am able to say that at the present time absolute chaos prevails. It is an open secret that nearly all the large railway companies are strengthening their bridges, and necessarily so, for I could cite cases where the working stress on the iron has exceeded by 250 per cent. that considered admissible by leading American and German bridge-builders in similar structures.

"A bridge which would be passed by the English Board of Trade would require to be strengthened 5 per cent. in some parts and 60 per cent. in others before it would be accepted by the German Government or by any of the leading railway companies in America. This undesirable state of affairs arises from the fact that in our own and some other countries many engineers still persistently ignore the fact that a bar of iron may be broken in two ways—namely, by the single application of a heavy stress or by the repeated application of a comparatively light stress.

"Wöhler's researches prove beyond all further question that any bar or beam of cast iron, wrought iron, or steel may be fractured by the continued repetition of comparatively small stresses, and that, as the differences of stress increase, the maximum stress capable of being sustained diminishes.

"Hundreds of existing railway bridges which carry twenty trains a day with perfect safety would break down quickly under twenty trains per hour. This fact was forced on my attention nearly twenty years ago by the fracture of a number of iron girders of ordinary strength under a five-minute train service. In New York, in the case of some hunnreds of girders on the 'Elevated Railway,' the alternative thrust and pull on the central diagonals from trains passing every two or three minutes have developed weaknesses which necessitate the bars being replaced by stronger ones after a very short service. If ships were always amongst great waves the number going to the bottom would be largely increased, for, according to Mr. John, late of Lloyd's, 'many large merchant steamers afloat are so deficient in longitudinal strength that they are liable under certain conditions of sea to be strained in the upper works to a tension of from eight to nine tons per square inch, and to a compression of from six to seven tons—stresses which the experiments already referred to proved would cause failure after a definite number of repetitions. Similarly, on taking ground or being dry-docked with a heavy cargo on board, it has been shown that vessels are liable to stresses of over eleven tons per square inch on the reverse frames, but no permanent injury results from such high stresses, because the number of repetitions is necessarily very limited."

"It appears natural enough to every one that a piece even of the toughest wire should be quickly broken if bent backward and forward to a sharp angle; but, perhaps, only to loconotive and marine engineers does it appear equally natural that the same result would follow in time if the bending were so small as to be quite imperceptible to the eye. A locomotive crank axle bends but 1 34th of an inch, and a straight driving axle the still smaller amount of 1-64th of an inch under the heaviest bending stresses to which they are subject, and yet their life is limited. During the year 1883 one iron axle in fifty broke in running, and one in fifteen was renewed in consequence of defects. Taking iron and steel axles together, the number then in use on the railways of the United Kingdom was 14,848, and of these, 911 required renewal during the year. Similarly, during the past three years no less than 228 ocean steamers were disabled by broken shafts, the average safe life of which is said to be about three or four years. In other words, experience has proved that a very moderate stress alternating from tension to compression, if repeated about one hundred million times, will cause fracture as surely as a sharp bending to an angle repeated perhaps only ten times.

"Why an originally strong and ductile metal should become weak and brittle under the frequent repetition of a moderate stress has not yet been explained. Whatever may be the immediate cause of fragility, no doubt exists that it is induced in metals by frequent bendings, such as a railway bridge undergoes. This fact, however, is not recognised in our Board of Trade Regulations, which remain as they were in the dark ages, as do those of the Ministry of Public Works of France and other countries. It is hardly necessary that I should say more to justify my statement that, as regards the admissible intensity of stress on metallic bridges, absolute chaos prevails."

FLOWERS OF THE SEASON.

A flower which rears its head with majestic dignity in most gardens at the present time is the old-fashioned sunflower. This gaudy and handsome plant, remarks Mr. Thiselton Dyer in the *Queen*, is rich in traditionary and legendary lore, and has become interwoven with many curious superstitions. Gerarde notices it in the year 1596 under the name of the Flower of the Sun or the Marigold of Peru. He further tells us that it has grown to the height of 14ft. in his garden at Holborn, producing flowers that measured 16in. in diameter. One of its popular French name is Tournesol, from the fact that its blossoms always turn to the sun, a notion to which we find frequent allusions in the literature of the past. Thus, it may be remembered, Moore, in one of his Irish melodies says :—

> The sunflower turns to her god when he sets
> The same look which she turn'd when it rose.

Thomson reminds how this "lofty follower of the sun points her enamour'd bosom to his ray," and St. Francis of Sales relates how "all yellow flowers, and what we call sunflower, not only rejoice at the sight of the sun, but follow with loving fidelity the attraction of its rays, gazing at the sun, and turning towards it from its rising to its setting." According to tradition, one species is supposed to have sprung from the tears of Helen of Troy. Another legend informs us that the nymph Clytie, famous for her devotion to Apollo, was transformed into the sunflower. In Peru, where the worship of the sun lingered till the Spaniards reached its shores, the priestesses when officiating were crowned with sunflowers of pure gold, wearing the same in their bosoms.

Allied to the sunflower in appearance is the Marigold, a flower so called from the popular tradition that the Blessed Virgin Mary wore it in her bosom. One of its popular nicknames is Spouse of the Sun, an old fancy noticed by Shakespeare, who speaks of—

> The marigold, that goes to bed with the sun,
> And with him rises weeping.

In America the marigold is known as the Death-flower, from a legend that this flower made its appearance "on grounds on which had been spilled the blood of the unfortunate Mexicans who fell victims to the love of gold, and the thirst of power, which induced the Spaniards to destroy those unoffending people." It is called by the Italians the Flower of All Months, and Chaucer knew it by the name of gold. Margaret of Orleans, maternal ancestor of Henry IV., had for her device a marigold turning towards the sun, with these words, *Je ne veux suivre que lui seul*, she wishing to express by this device that all her thoughts turned towards heaven, as the marigold does towards the sun. In the reign of Henry VIII. the marigold was called Souvenir, and wreaths of them were worn by ladies, intermixed with heart's-ease.

Another familiar flower is the Snapdragon, with its many nicknames, such as Dog's-mouth, Calf's-snout, Toad's-mouth, and so on. In days gone by it was much cultivated in gardens, not only on account of its showy blossoms, but from a popular belief that it possessed supernatural powers, and destroyed charms. [Cardinal Newman, in his *Apologia*, speaks of the Snapdragon that used to grow on the walls outside his rooms at Trinity.] Equally showy is the Foxglove, termed the Finger-flower from the form of its blossom.

It is specially a fairy flower. Thus one of its popular names is Fairy-bells, which are supposed to summon these little beings to their midnight reveries. In Ireland it goes by the name of Fairy-cap, and the bending of its stalks is believed to denote the unseen presence of supernatural beings. This plant, too, was said to be held in high esteem by witches, decorating their fingers with its largest bells; hence its name Witches'-bells, or Witches-thimbles. The light down which covers the stalks of the foxglove induced the poets to make this plant the emblem of youth, but others, in allusion to its flowers, have made it the emblem of folly.

Foremost amongst our garden flowers must be mentioned the Dahlia, or, as it is called in Germany and Russia, Georgina, after a professor at St. Petersburg. It was introduced into this country by Lady Bute, but, from some reason or other, the plant was entirely lost to our gardens until seeds were reintroduced by Lady Holland in 1804. The sweet-smelling Clematis now attracts notice, popularly known as Virgin's-bower, or Traveller's-joy. From its hoary appearance, it has also been styled Old-man's-beard. According to Loudon, the name of Virgin's-bower was probably given to this flower—introduced in the year 1569—with the intention of paying a compliment to Queen Elizabeth, who liked to be spoken of as the Virgin Queen. It has been aptly made the emblem of artifice, as its leaves are used by mendicants to produce ulcers, in order to excite commiseration.

A variety of the Campanula is popularly designated Venus's-looking-glass. Another well-known species is the Harebell, or, as it is sometimes called, Harvest-bell. It has long been a disputed question as to whether this is the Bluebell of Scotland, since many affirm that the true Bluebell is the wild hyacinth. Anyhow, as the poet Browne tells us in his *Pastorals*,

> The harebell, for her stainless, azured hue,
> Claims to be worn of none but those are true

One of its popular nicknames is Witches'-thimble. Then there is the clustered Bellflower, in connection with which Miss Pratt, in her *Flowering Plants of Great Britain*, quotes the following tradition as current in the vicinity of Bartlow, Cambridgeshire: "In this little village," she writes, "there are four remarkable hills, supposed to have been thrown up by the Danes as monumental memorials of the dreadful battle fought in 1016 between Canute and Edmund Ironside. The author, some years since, found this clustered bellflower largely scattered about these mounds, and on asking of some cottagers the name of the flower, was told that it was the Danes Blood, and so called because it sprung up from the blood of the Danes." We may further mention the Canterbury-bells, so plentiful in our Kentish woods, and which were so named from their resemblance to the hand-bells which were placed on bells, and rung by pilgrims when journeying to the shrine of St. Thomas. "There is, however," says Mr. Folkkard, in his *Plant Lore Legends and Signes* (1884, p. 358), "a tradition extant that the name of Canterbury-bells was given to this plant in memory of St. Augustine.

A flower known to most persons is the common Mallow, which was familiar with the Romans. Horace speaks of

> Shards or mallows for the pot,
> That keep the loosened body sound.

Then there is the Evening Primrose, nicknamed the Evening Star, for, as it has been observed,

> The evening primrose shuns the day,
> Blossoms only to the western star,
> And loves the solitary ray.

It has, says Phillips, in his *Flora Historica* been made the emblem of inconstancy, and is therefore seldom worn by the fair. This flower has been dedicated to St. Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal.

The Hollyhock, again, is a showy ornament to our gardens, known also as the China-rose, because, says Mr. Ingram, in his *Flora Symbolica*, "large numbers of roots have been imported from that country, with whose inhabitants its bloomage is a great favourite." Mortimer, in his work on husbandry, printed in the year 1707, says, "Holycocks far exceed poppies for their durableness, and are very ornamental." It is worthy of notice that bees are exceedingly fond of this plant, and, as Horace Smith says,

> From the nectaries of hollyhocks
> The humble bee, e'en till he faints, will sip.

Amongst the many other plants around which so much legendary lore has clustered may be mentioned the Vervain or Verbena. In olden times it held a prominent place in the superstitious rites of the ancients. The Persian magicians employed the vervain in their pretended divinations, and it was held sacred by the Romans, who used it for hallowing their homes and keeping off evil spirits, a superstition that has survived in our own country. Aubry, for instance, tells us how—

> Vervain and dill
> Hinder witches from their will

And Michael Drayton speaks of "holy dill 'gainst witchcraft much availing." On the other hand, it seems to have been employed by witches, and R. Turner, writing in the year 1687, informs us that "it was said to be used by witches to do mischief," but adds, and so may all other herbs, if by wicked astrologers used to accomplish their wicked ends." Vervain is still held in high repute on the Continent. The Germans present a hat of vervain to the newly-married bride, and the French peasant collects this mystic plant "to charm both the flocks and the rustic beauties of the village."

Once more, another plant associated with many a curious item of legendary lore is the Amaranth. This flower is mentioned by Milton as forming the diadem of angels, and is thus graphically noticed :

> With solemn adoration down they cast
> Their crowns inwove with amaranth and gold;
> Immortal amaranth, a flower which once
> In Paradise, fast by the tree of life,
> Began to bloom, but soon for man's offence
> To heaven removed, where first it grew, there grows
> And flowers aloft, shading the font of life.

Pope, too, it may be remembered, in his "Ode for St. Cecilia's Day," has a pretty reference to this favourite flower :

> By the streams that ever flow,
> By the fragrant winds that blow,
> O'er the Elysian flow'rs;
> By those happy souls that dwell
> In yellow meads of Asphodel
> Or Amarantbine bow'rs.

It has been an emblem of immorality, and hence formed a prominent position at funeral ceremonies. In Sweden there are Knights of the Amaranth. This order was first instituted in the year 1653 by Christiana, Queen of Sweden, who upon this occasion appeared at a *fête* in a dress completely covered by diamonds, and attended by a suite of sixteen nobles of her court. At the conclusion of the ball, the queen stripped herself of her diamonds and distributed them to the company, at the same time presenting the new order of knighthood, consisting of a ribbon and a medal, with an amaranth in enamel, surrounded with an appropriate motto.

A LIVELY FIVE MINUTES.

We are told every day that "truth is stranger than fiction;" and that this is so is again shown by the following facts, which are narrated in the columns of a contemporary as nearly as possible in the words of the person (an assistant to a well-known veterinary surgeon) to whom the adventure occurred last week :—

"We had been having several cases of rabies at the surgery during the last month or two—more cases than usual; but, with the exception of one, they had all been brought in before the disease reached its most virulent stage. I am rather interested in the disease, and had been reading about it; and, sitting in the surgery alone and quiet (but for a poor beast in the yard with rabies which gave vent every now and then to the dismal howl peculiar to the disease), it was not particularly lively; and when my master (a veterinary surgeon) came in from his usual round I was not sorry. He went into the yard and inspected the patients as usual, ordering the collie with rabies to be killed at once. I attended to this, and, returning to the surgery, received orders to go to the Britannia public-house, in Soho, and poison a large retriever belonging to the landlord. My master had seen the dog during his rounds, and found it in a dangerously rabid state. I filled a small bottle with hydrocyanic acid, and, taking a syringe, went off at once to see about it.

"Arriving at the house, I stated my business, and was handed over to the potboy to be conducted to the dog, which I could hear howling every few seconds. There being no yard to the house, they had chained the dog down in the cellar, to a staple in the wall. "'E's a wery bad case, sir,' said my guide, 'an' I'll be glad when it's all over; for, although he was a great pet with us all, an' that fond of the kids you never see, it's awful to see 'im not know any of us; but when we goes near 'im to have 'im come a-flying at us. Think 'e'll suffer much? There 'e

goes! 'ear 'im? All day long 'e 'owls like that.' I assured him it would soon be over, without much pain; and, descending some steps, we passed through a room in the basement that was dimly lit by a small and grimy window. Cases of wines and spirits were ranged against the walls, and we could hear the tramp of the thickly-shod customers in the bar or taproom just above our heads. Opening a door, we passed into another room; this was lighted only by the small window in the room we had just left, as it shone through the now open door. 'He's in there,' said the potboy, pointing to another door in the wall opposite. Thinking there was a window in the room, I pushed the door open, and immediately heard the rattle of a chain and the hoarse half-howl, half-growl of the poor beast, whose eyes I could see, against the far wall, gleaming through the dark. Window there was none. 'Why on earth didn't you bring a light?' I asked, angrily; 'you don't suppose I can poison him in the dark?' 'Thought I 'ad a match,' said the man, fumbling in his pockets; 'there's a gas-jet just inside the door.' I had no matches, so I sent him upstairs to get some, and, awaiting his return, sat down on an empty keg near the door.

"The dog seemed uneasy; and, fancying the light through the doorway annoyed and distressed him, I pushed it with my hand. The man was some time gone (I found afterwards he had been to ask his mistress if she would like to have a last look at the old dog), and I sat there thinking over the notes I had been reading in the surgery. The air of the cellar was close and the smell of the wet sawdust on the floor was most unpleasant. Clank went the dog's chain against the wall or the floor, as he moved uneasily about, wondering, I daresay, what was my errand there. Then the movement ceased for a time, or, partly absorbed in my thoughts, I fail to notice it. The next minute I started, feeling something rub against my leg. Looking down, I saw two glaring eyes just at my knee. The dog was loose; the staple having worked its way out of the damp and yielding mortar.

"For a second or two I nearly lost consciousness. My heart seemed to stand still; but by an effort I kept from going off into a faint. I shall never forget the next few minutes as long as I live. I was alone in the dark, with this rabid beast rubbing about my legs—first one and then the other, as if he were trying to find out who I was. Then he rested his nose on my knees and looked straight up into my face. I sat like a statue, knowing that at the slightest movement he would probably seize me, and knowing (who better?) that such a bite in his advanced state of disease was almost certain death, and a horrible death too. Nerving myself, I sat perfectly still, calculating as well as I could my chances of escape. Presently the dog put first one paw, then the other, on my knee, and, standing on his hind-legs, gently rubbed his head against my breast, then over my arms, and then commenced to explore my face. I shut my eyes, and felt his nose pass several times across my face, covering it with saliva. Yet I dared not move! I expected every instant he would seize me; the very beating of my heart might disturb and annoy him; and I felt that, come what might, I must fling him off and make a dash for the door.

"Suddenly he ceased rubbing against me, and appeared to be listening. He could hear the steps of the potboy descending the ladder. I also could hear it, and knew not whether to call to him or keep silent. The dog now dropped down to my knees again, still listening; and as the light of a candle streamed through the crevices of the badly fitting door he crept into the far corner of the cellar, evidently dreading being put upon the chain again. Then I made a dash at the door, swung it open, and, banging it to behind me, sank, more dead than alive, on a case near the wall. Seeing my state, the man brought me quickly a nip of brandy, and I pulled myself together. All this time the dog was growling furiously on the other side of the door, and tearing at it in his mad endeavour to get at us. Steadying myself as well as I could, I placed the light on a pile of cases, and, filling my syringe with acid, opened the door about two inches. As I expected, the infuriated beast rushed at the opening; and as he did so I discharged the contents of the syringe into his open mouth. In a few seconds all was over. When I went upstairs I found my trousers, vest, coat, hands, and face covered with the saliva from his mouth. I felt sick and faint, and looked—so the people said—white as a ghost; in fact, I could hardly stand.

"The dog I had killed was bitten by the mad dog that ran down Piccadilly, some three weeks since, and had only showed symptoms of madness during the last few days."

SOME CURIOUS LAND TENURES.

Land tenure has been one of the prominent subjects of public interest for some time past, and in the immediate future it seems likely to occupy even a greater share of attention. A drier and more unattractive one for perhaps the majority of the people could hardly be brought forward. Yet, out of this dull subject the genius of one Master Thomas Blount has managed to extract a whole bookful of what he calls "Jocular Tenures." Jocular enough, indeed, have been some of the devices by which ingenious landlords have sought, either for their substantial advantage or their dignity, to perpetuate the recollection of their landlordship. "When the Abbot of Figeac made his entry into that town," says Disraeli the Elder, "the Lord of Montbron, dressed in a harlequin's coat, and, one of his legs naked, was compelled by ancient custom to conduct him to the door of his abbey, leading his horse by the bridle." The object of such a ceremony would no doubt be the public recognition of the abbey ownership of the soil occupied by the Lord of Monthron, and that by a procedure calculated to exalt the religious community in the opinion of the people around, and also to impress itself upon their memory as a precaution against the possibility of the act of fealty ever being denied.

Innumerable instances of equally fantastic requirements are recorded, and many of them, indeed, have continued in force to the present day. In mediæval times feudal lords often found it necessary or expedient to part with portions of their estates so far as all receipt of rent was concerned, but to reserve to themselves the many other advantages pertaining to the vassalage of the people living upon them. The simplest way of accomplishing this was to grant a perpetual lease of the land at a mere nominal rent. Sometimes the nominal rent would itself be of a kind likely to impress itself upon the attention of all parties concerned—as, for instance, in the case of the now familiar peppercorn rental. When that was first adopted peppercorns were curiosities not easily procurable. There used to be, and for aught we know to the contrary there is now, in Yorkshire a farm held so long as the tenant can or will present to the Lord of the manor a snowball at midsummer and a rose at Christmas. Neither rose nor snowball would be a matter of much difficulty nowadays, but centuries back there would be times when roses at Christmas were mighty few and far between, and when the supply of a snowball at Midsummer would depend very much on the temperature on the top of Cross Fell, Mickle Fell, and other high lands in the North of England or in Scotland. The idea of such a rent would be very much the same as in the case of the peppercorns—a demand for something remarkable, something out of the common way, and the payment of which would be likely to be remembered, a matter of no small importance in illiterate times, when perhaps neither party to a contract could either read or write. Tenures of such a nature have been familiar wherever the feudal system has prevailed. They were, and they are still, common enough on the Continent, and where the form of the rent has not in itself been remarkable, the payment of it has frequently been attended by some odd ceremony or supplementary presentation. Thus Charles V. gave the island of Malta to the Knights of Rhodes on condition that they would acknowledge themselves vassals of his successors by annually presenting to them a falcon. "One man," says Gotthold, "is bound every Christmas Eve to bring a faggot of wood to his lord superior's chimney; another upon the name day of his lady to sing a song to her praise; and a third at certain appointed times to call upon the frogs to cease their croaking." A nobleman in France is bound to present his superior every year with a wren. Others must deliver a pig's head; others, a chaplet of roses; others, again, a lark tied to a carriage; others, a twig in leaf; and others, a twig in blossom.

One of the queerest tenures ever devised was that by which certain lands in Shropshire were held. The tenant was to find a foot soldier for the service of the King whenever required to do so. How long he was to serve was not specified, but it was to be determined in this way:—When the soldier joined the King's army he was to bring a pig with him, either in the form of salt pork or bacon. This he was to hand over to the King's Marshal, who would give the man a piece of it every day for dinner. If the Marshal was likely to require the soldier's services for a long time he would give him a very scanty dinner; but if he expected to have done with him quickly he would deal out the food bountifully. When the pig was gone, the man's service was at an end, and his master's rent—or the service equivalent to it—was paid, for the time. There were a good many instances in which landed estates have been held on condition of finding a bull to be baited on popular holidays, and at least one instance is recorded in which a farm was held in perpetuity on the sole condition that the occupant, whenever the King came into his part of the country, should supply his Majesty with as much clean straw as would be required for the floor of the Royal chambers—a stipulation which affords rather an interesting idea of Royal magnificence in olden times. It is not only individuals who have thus held certain rights and privileges on such queer conditions, but common lands in many parts have been held and are held still in some instances by the fulfilment of pledges quite as curious. The sheriffs of the county of Norfolk held at one time, and we presume they still hold, thirty acres of land, forming part of a certain manor in the country, on consideration of their presenting to the King whenever he should be in England at the time of the first catch of herrings every season four and twenty of the best of the fish. Yarmouth had a charter conferred upon it on condition that it should send to these same sheriffs annually a hundred herrings baked in four and twenty pasties, the sheriffs having to pass them on to the Lord of the manor of East Charlton. Alnwick freemen to this day, we believe, enjoy the right of pasturing their cattle upon certain common lands on very whimsical conditions indeed. It is said that King John was once travelling in the town on horseback, and owing to the deplorable state of the roads his Majesty floundered by night into a pond. He was so incensed that he made it a condition of the charter he granted to the town that every freeman should go through that pond. Accordingly, every inhabitant of Alnwick who proposes to take up his freedom must wade through this water and make the round of the common. This ceremony is performed—or, at all events, used to be performed—by several together, all mounted on horseback, dressed in white, and wearing swords by their sides. In Master Blount's book we have the mention of a knight, Sir Philip de Somerville, who held possession of his manor on the sole condition that he should keep hung up in his hall at all times, except during the season of Lent, a bacon flitch, to be awarded to any married couple who could prove that they had spent the first year of their wedded life in uninterrupted harmony. Addison in one of the papers of the *Spectator*, waggishly professed to give some account of the candidates who came forward for the flitch. The first to demand it were a couple who had no sooner got possession of the prize than they fell into an angry dispute as to how the bacon should be dressed. Whereupon the judge ordered it to be taken from them and hung up again. Another applicant proved indisputably that entire harmony had prevailed between himself and his wife during their honeymoon. That was not sufficient to entitle him to the flitch, but he had one rasher bestowed upon him. "After that," continues Addison, "there were but two couples that were successful in this first century. The first was a sea captain and his wife, who since the day of their marriage had not seen each other until the day of the claim. The second was an honest pair in the neighbourhood. The husband was a man of plain good sense and peaceable temper—the woman was dumb." This may be accepted merely as a joke on the part of the *Spectator*: but this tenure, by which several manors were held of the Earls of Lancaster by Sir Philip de Somerville, may be accepted as historical fact, and as the institution of the more famous Dunmow flitch is said to be of considerable later date, it is safe perhaps to assume that the idea was imported into Dunmow from the Staffordshire manors.

SIR SAVILE LUMLEY'S DIGGINGS.

A correspondent of the *St. James's Gazette*, writing from Rome under date of Sept. 19, says:—

"Sir Savile Lumley's excavations on the site of the Temple of Diana, known as the Artemisium, near the village of Nemi, are becoming more and more interesting. Since my first description of the discoveries, explorations have been made from the central site of the temple, towards the adjoining portions of the ample quadrilateral space surrounding it, and within the lofty quadrangle of niched walls already described. The diggings under the south-western façade of the temple brought the excavators upon a series of cells, built of oblong blocks of volcanic stone, more or less ruined, but still containing a large number of coins, bronze figures and implements, terra-cotta votive offerings and images, interred at about three mètres depth. The immense quantity of terra-cotta figures and ornaments, varying in style from the most archaic forms to those of really classic beauty, thus found in close vicinity to the temple leads us to the supposition that the excavators have opened out some of the *favissæ*, or cisterns in which the priests were accustomed to bury such sacred implements and offerings as they had no more use or space for; it being a principle with them never wilfully to break or disperse any objects once devoted to religious purposes. The specimens of terra-cotta ware thus revealed may be divided into two classes. The greater number are made of dark-red clay roughly fashioned. Although not solid they are very thick, and appear to have been formed in two moulds, one for the front and one for the back part. They preserve some traces of dark-red paint, and resemble in most respects the clay figures recently found in Rome during the works going on for the rectification of the Tiber banks. They are evidently the produce of local potteries. The type of features is archaic; and the heads of almost all, like those found in the Tiber, are adorned with a kind of diadem. The female heads are frequently decked with earrings and necklaces. In most of these figures the busts only reach to the shoulders. There are, however, more or less perfect specimens of complete figures, nude and draped, and attaining to about half life-size. The second class of terra-cotta objects consists of those made of a finer and yellower clay, much thinner and of more accurate workmanship. Traces of colour appear more frequently than in the first class, and the nude parts of the figures are sometimes varnished yellow. The type of these works agrees with those of southern Italy and Sicily; but they are probably imitations, not importations. Many of the figures in this class are extremely elegant, and those of Diana and her attendant nymphs often recur. In some instances the fine clay forming the figure has been filled with lead, to give to them solidity and equilibrium. The statuettes in this class comprise chiefly draped or partially nude figures, male and female, and bear the elegant character of the finest Greek models. There are variations, however, of subject; among which may be mentioned that of Faun, jovial in expression and vigorously developed.

"The votive offerings found in these excavations belong mostly to the first-mentioned class of pottery, and consist of different portions of the human body, including some of the viscera. To this series we owe many indications of the worship paid to Diana Lucina.

"Certain architectural ornaments and fragments attributable to the Temple of Diana itself must now be mentioned. Among these the most interesting are some specimens of the *acroteria*, or richly modelled summits of the roof. These are mostly of triangular form, and about a foot high and nine inches wide. One represents a bust of Diana with bow and quiver on either shoulder, the head of a wild goat being indicated below. The goddess wears a diadem adorned with three rosettes, and a sleeveless tunic buttoned on the shoulders. Another *acroterium* presents the bust of an ideal nymph artistically modelled, with copious hair gathered on the top of her head and falling in two ringlets on her neck. The expression of the face is dignified. Other fragments of frieze and *antefixa* show tragic and comic masks, and various designs. Vases, lamps, and *pateræ* are continually turning up.

"The principal depôt for these treasures is a granary belonging to Prince Orsini in the adjoining town of Genzano, and thither *savants* from Rome resort in great number. The division of the treasure is to come; for the Prince is to have one half and the Ambassador the other. It will require an archæological expert of some discernment to make the two lots equal in value.

"So far I have not spoken of the bronzes, coins, and marbles revealed by these later excavations; and can now only add that a new and highly interesting series of monuments, inscriptions, and architectural remains, apparently of the early Imperial epoch, has been quite recently brought to light within the precincts of the sacred enclosure. There are richly-ornamented votive cells or chapels, such as were discovered two years ago at Ostia. At Ostia these cells belonged to different guilds of the city, as the inscriptions on the mosaic pavements inform us. At the Artemisium the chapels appear to have belonged to Roman patricians; for on the mosaic pavement of the first discovered was the name of Marcus Servilius Quartus. Unfortunately, we cannot flatter ourselves that this was Cicero's celebrated friend, as the style of the work and inscription is at least a century later than the great orator's period.

"The Senator Fiorelli, who is at the head of the archæological department in Italy, has sent an architectural surveyor to take an exact plan of the entire space enclosed within the niched quadrangular walls and the buildings contained. He says their proportions will startle the learned world."

RECENT PHYSIOLOGY.

A correspondent of the *Times* gives some of the results of experiments made by Drs. Ferrier and Yeo for the advancement of brain physiology. The experiments were made upon monkeys, the animals being in all cases thoroughly narcotised with chloroform, and kept in a state of complete anæthesia during the whole operative procedure.

"As the result of one series of experiments, it was determined that the only brain injury which causes complete and permanent b indness is total destruction of the occipital or hinder lobes of the cerebrum or large brain, and the adjacent (angular) convolutions on both sides. The detailed working out of this question furnishes most important *data* for determining the seat of an injury to the human brain when various defects of vision arise in consequence. It appears that vision is possible with both eyes when only portions of the visual centres in the brain remain intact on both sides. Some of the experiments furnished most interesting examples of how an animal can learn to compensate its loss of one sense by the education of the others. Such *data* are most valuable, for it is impossible to have experiments on human faculties and their education where the previous injury or defect of the brain is precisely known.

"Another series of experiments proved that the brain centre for hearing is situated in a definite convolution in the temporal region. Hearing was totally abolished by destruction of this convolution in both hemispheres, but not by other injuries. A further and more extended series was directed to proving the effect of destruction of those portions of the brain which Dr. Ferrier had previously shown to be the centres of voluntary motion for distinct portions of the body. These injuries resulted in motor paralysis of parts or the whole of the body without loss of sensation, and the paralysis was limited or general, according to the extent of the injury.

"When, however, the frontal regions of the brain were almost entirely destroyed, there was a remarkable absence of any physiological symptom, and only temporary impairment or paralysis of the lateral movements of the head and eyes as the result of partial injuries. There was no affection of sensation, general or special, and the limbs, face, and tail were capable of voluntary movement. In fact, so long as portions of the frontal centres remain intact, the movements of the head and eyes are not permanently paralysed. But these regions seem to have considerable relation to mental processes, for the animals operated upon, after recovery from the injury, showed some mental deterioration, characterised by general apathetic indifference or purposeless unrest. Of course as to mental operations, results must be imperfect where the animal concerned cannot be subjected to questioning.

"A more difficult investigation than the foregoing was that in which injuries were caused to a basal portion of the brain in the temporal region, in order to determine the source of paralysis of sensation, whether of the skin, the muscles, or the lining membranes of internal cavities, such as the stomach. It was almost impossible to get at these parts of the brain without injuring some other portion. Thus the experiments had to be repeated and varied; and it was found that the only point common to all the cases in which there was impairment or abolition of tactile sensibility was destruction of the cortex and medullary fibres of the region above referred to, known to anatomists as the hippocampal region; and this impairment or abolition of sensation occurs on the opposite side of the body to that injured.

"Thus Dr. Ferrier has largely supplemented his original splendid series of researches on the electrical stimulation of various portions of the brain, and has done much to revolutionise brain physiology. The theory that we have two complete brains, either of which can, if needed, act without the other, is, for the most part, shown to be fallacious. As to motor action, the only parts of the brain which can ac upon both sides are those for the muscles of the throat and lower part of the face. As to sensation, it is easily understood from anatomical considerations why both sides of the brain should be completely able to maintain sight, for fibres from both eyes go to each half of the brain. Thus the same sensations are registered on each side of the brain, and it often happens that an injury to one side of the brain is unattended with loss of sight. The excellence of this arrangement, considering the supreme importance of sight to animals as well as human beings, is evident.

"Of course, it must not be imagined that these results mark anything like the attainment of finality. Whenever a portion of the brain is injured it is, to say the least, doubtful how far the loss of that part influences the function of another region. Yet the record of the conditions permanently established in numerous instances, and confirmed by post-mortem examination after months of comfortable life by the animal after operation, must be of great value. It is still open to question how far we can argue from results obtained on monkeys to the higher organisation of man. But physiology is surely gaining trustworthy ideas about nerve and brain function, and, having made enormous advances by studying the simpler physiology of the frog, is now going on to elucidate the functions of monkeys—a more difficult task, but vitally necessary as the prelude to sound generalisation on man's thinking mechanism."

A paper on "The Sanitary Evils arising from Burial in Imperishable Coffins in Insufficient Earth," was read on the 25th ult., by the Rev. F. Lawrence, Hon. Sec. of the Church of England Funeral Reform Association, before the Sanitary Congress at Leicester. Deferred burial, he said, was an evil to the public health; but the greater evil consisted in the evasive and unnatural method of storing up human remains in every stage and condition of decay, destroying the soil, fouling the air, contaminating the water-springs, and spreading the seeds of disease. This had suggested cremation; but this system ignored the great fact that the earth was the most powerful disinfectant known; it necessitated a costly and often perfunctory and ineffectual post-mortem examination, and facilitated secret poisoning. The earth was the natural crematory. The body might be placed in a coffin, constructed, not with a view to its endurance, but to its speedy perishability, and buried three or four feet deep in its own grave in well-drained, dry, and porous soil, and there would undergo, not merely decay, but a process of transformation, until it had literally risen again in air and nourished plants, leaving behind nothing but inorganic matter. The air had been able to get access to the body and resolve it into harmless products. This was the process intended by the Church in her "Order for the Burial of the Dead," as indicated by the use of the words "corpse," "body," "earth to earth," and has been called by Liebig cremacausis, a word meaning slow combustion. A discussion followed, in which Professor Symons, Dr. Whitelegg, Mr. H. P. Boulnoir, and Captain Douglas Galton took part.

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Accumulated Fund	£1,028,215
Annual Income, nearly	£200,000
Profits already appropriated	£847,000
Claims paid	£1,210,133
Policies in force	£4,793,942

POLICIES ABSOLUTELY INDISPUTABLE after five years, provided the age of the Assured has been admitted.
POLICIES KEPT IN FORCE when requested by appropriating the Surrender Value to the payment of premiums.
Assurers under the TEMPERANCE SCHEME are placed in a separate Section.
Policies may be effected under the DEFERRED BONUS plan.
EDWIN BOWLBY, Secretary.

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Policies expiring at MICHAELMAS should be renewed within Fifteen Days thereafter, or they will become Void.
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NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Authorised Capital, £3,000,000. Subscribed Capital, £2,000,000, Paid-up Capital, £625,000.

RESOURCES OF THE COMPANY as at 31st December, 1883.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums received during the year 1883, after deducting re-insurances, amounted to £1,107,745 9s. 9d.
The Net Losses by Fire during the year were, after deducting re-insurances, £672,825 13s. 10d.
This embraces not merely all losses actually ascertained and paid, but a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December.
The Fire Funds, after payment of the Dividend and Bonus aftermentioned, and irrespective of the Paid-up Capital, are as follow:—

Reserve	£1,170,000	0 0
Premium Reserve	369,243	9 11
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	52,986	15 3
	£1,592,235	5 2

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

894 new Policies were issued during the year, assuring	£814,819	0 0
The new Premiums on which amount to the sum of	29,572	1 5
The claims sustained during the year, including 16 endowments, were 296 in number, arising under 397 policies, and the sums payable, after deducting re-assurances, amounted, with bonus additions, to	346,122	4 4
The income for the year of the Life Branch from premiums and interest amounted to	471,407	15 7
In the Annuity Branch 83 bonds were granted, securing annuities to the amount of £5,390 12s. 7d. yearly, for which was received by single payment the sum of	59,520	11 6
The Life Fund, now amounts to	3,340,918	11 2
The Annuity Fund now amounts to	509,275	17 11

LIFE DEPARTMENT.—The PRINCIPLES on which this Company was founded, and on which it continues to act, combine the system of Mutual Assurance with the safety of a large Protecting Capital and Accumulated Funds. NINETY PER CENT. of the WHOLE PROFITS is divided among the Assurers on the Participating Scale. The PROFITS are divided every Five Years. POLICIES are INDISPUTABLE after Five Years.
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For Sea, Fire, Life, and Annuities.

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The Total Claims paid by this Corporation have exceeded

THIRTY-THREE MILLIONS Sterling.

FIRE ASSURANCES on liberal terms.

LIFE ASSURANCES with or without participation in profits. Divisions of Profit every Five Years.

Persons whose lives are assured with this Corporation on the Bonus or Non-Bonus system incur no Mutual Liabilities as Partners, nor do they depend upon an uncertain Fund; the large INVESTED CAPITAL-STOCK of the Corporation affords unquestionable Security for the fulfilment of its engagements.

All real improvements in modern practice, with the security of an office whose resources have been tested by the experience of more than a CENTURY AND A-HALF.

The Corporation are open to consider applications for Agencies,

A Prospectus, Table of Bonus, and Balance Sheet will be forwarded on application.

E. R. HANDCOCK, Secretary.

LAW LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,
FLEET STREET, LONDON.—Instituted 1823.

Assets on 31st December, 1884	£5,375,905
Income for the Year 1884	£454,633
Amount paid in claims to 31st Dec., 1884	£14,208,926
Reversionary Bonus allotted for the five years ending 31st Dec., 1884	£660,946
Reversionary Bonuses hitherto allotted	£6,889,037

The Expenses of Management, including Commission, are under 4½ per cent of the Income.
The Limits of Free travel and residence have been largely extended, and rates of extra premium reduced.
Loans granted on security of Policies, Life Interests, Reversions, and on other approved Securities.
Life Interests and Reversions are purchased.
Claims paid immediately on proof of death and Title.
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Adopted as a Medical comfort in the Royal Navy.

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ASSIST DIGESTION,
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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, October 3.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The peace of Europe is hanging in the balance, and the next few weeks, or perhaps even the next few days, will decide whether the Eastern Question and the future of the East will once more be submitted to the chances of war. The revolution in Eastern Roumelia has had the effect of arousing the ambitions and the jealousies of the little States that look to the dissolution of the Turkish Empire for the satisfaction of their hopes and schemes of aggrandisement. The union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia is in itself a result that the European Powers can regard with equanimity. In so far as it has baffled the designs of Russia for securing a position of predominant power in the Balkan peninsula, it

will be generally regarded with satisfaction. The policy of Lord Beaconsfield which was directed to securing a bulwark against the immediate establishment of Russian authority in the provinces bordering upon Constantinople has achieved a complete success. The reasons that seven years ago militated against the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia in one State have practically ceased to exist. Lord Beaconsfield, if he were living, would be the first to recognise the changed conditions of the problem with which the statesmen who are concerned with the present development of the Eastern Question have to deal. In the Conference of Ambassadors which meets for the first time on Tuesday next at Constantinople, there will be a general acquiescence in accepting the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, and the breach of the Treaty of Berlin will be condoned. There is little probability that the other great Powers who were parties to the Treaty will agree to the desire of the Russian Government that the deposition of Prince Alexander shall be the penalty of the infraction of the international covenant of Berlin. The fact that Prince Alexander has not been a willing tool of Russia must be held to be a distinct qualification for the position he is called upon to fill. If the Conference of Ambassadors had to deal with nothing more serious or formidable than the peaceful revolution in Roumelia, their task would be an easy one. But Greece and Servia, acting with one accord, and in pursuance of a common understanding, are protesting that the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia has disturbed the equilibrium of power, and, unless they receive territorial compensations, warlike action on their part is inevitable. The course pursued by Servia threatens the most serious complications. It is difficult to imagine that Servia is acting without the countenance or the complicity of some more formidable Power. It is impossible to believe that Germany and Austria cannot restrain the Servian Government from proceeding to hostilities by the mere exercise of their influence, if it is desired to do so. And as it does not seem likely that the present time will be chosen for precipitating a crisis in the East, there is good reason to hope that the European peace may be preserved. The interests of England are happily but slightly affected. If Egypt passes definitely under the protectorate of England, even the future of Constantinople would become of comparatively minor moment to the British Empire. The future policy of England in the East will have to be guided by this consideration.

A very short space of time has sufficed to amply justify the indignant opposition that was offered in these columns to the policy of the present Conservative Government in abandoning the securities for the maintenance of order and tranquillity in Ireland that the Crimes Act gave, and in relying on the ordinary law. Ireland is fast relapsing into the condition of social anarchy from which it was rescued by coercive legislation and the firm administration of Lord Spencer. Lord Carnarvon is in office and the National League is in power. It is true that the more serious atrocities, assassination and arson, by which the supremacy of Mr. Parnell and his confederates has been secured are not at present resorted to. They are for the time unnecessary, and might have the undesirable effect of once more shocking English opinion into a unanimous demand for rigorous measures of repression of the Irish revolutionary movement. But boycotting is again in full activity, and the National League, released from the fear of criminal prosecutions and legal convictions, is slowly and surely enforcing its supremacy over the law of the land and the rights of individuals. All that is happening is precisely what was anticipated. It only remains for the Ministry to recognise promptly and fully the extent of the blunder into which they have been betrayed, a blunder that has earned for them the contempt of their friends and the derision of their opponents. Any policy of conciliation in dealing with the party of revolution in Ireland is impossible. Any attempt to govern Ireland by the aid of Mr. Parnell must end in disaster. It is satisfactory to find from the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that there is a tardy realisation of the realities of the situation in Ireland. But something more than mere rhetorical affirmations of a resolution to uphold the law is necessary. It is essential that the anarchy which is fast growing in Ireland shall be forthwith checked before it has assumed yet more formidable proportions. There is little, unhappily, to be hoped for from attempts to enforce the ordinary law. But if the useful provisions of the Crimes Act are no longer available, it is always possible to have recourse to martial law; and this fact the National League and Mr. Parnell will do well to remember.

On the Radical side, at least, the electoral campaign is being vigorously pursued. Scarcely a day passes on which the ubiquitous and untiring Mr. Chamberlain, or one of his lieutenants, does not expound the Gospel of Plunder to the new constituencies. The sanctimonious affectations of philanthropy with which Mr. Chamberlain recommends his various schemes of spoliation are particularly nauseous. We are not aware that Mr. Chamberlain has ever given any particular practical evidences of the charitable instincts which he professes on the platform. His name is not one that is usually found in the list of contributors to charitable objects. But for vicarious charity—for charity indulged in at the cost of other people—Mr. Chamberlain is not to be rivalled. He is prepared to rob the Church, the landowners, and the well-to-do classes generally with a single-minded anxiety to improve the condition—and secure the votes—of the poor and needy. It remains to be seen how the poor and ignorant classes of the community who have been invested with a preponderance of political power will receive the coarse appeals that are made to their cupidity. Mr. Chamberlain is teaching the lesson to all those who have anything to lose to league themselves together in opposition to the Freebooters' party, that seeks to secure office by a policy of cowardice abroad and confiscation at home. In the meantime, the Conservative leaders have said but little. They have wisely allowed the nation quietly to ruminate over the schemes of plunder which Mr. Chamberlain submits to it. It is in some quarters made a reproach to the Conservative leaders that they have not given forth a formal political programme. But the Tory policy requires little elucidation or development: it consists in direct hostility to the views that Mr. Chamberlain propounds, and this, it may be hoped, is enough to win for it the support of the patriotism, the intelligence, and the honesty of the English people.

Full of years and honours Lord Shaftesbury has passed away. His life has been one dovoted to the achievement of a lofty ideal of activity, and his career of practical philanthropy has been crowned with a full measure of success. For more than half-a-century he has been foremost in every good work. Little has been attempted or accomplished to raise the condition of the English people, to promote their social welfare, to improve their moral *status*, in which Lord Shaftesbury has not taken a leading part. The school of religious opinion to which Lord Shaftesbury belonged is not one which enlists at the present time any considerable degree of public sympathy, and it is to be owned that Lord Shaftesbury too often gave painful evidences of the degree to which he was influenced by the intolerance of his Evangelical views. But the honesty of his convictions, the sincerity of his faith, and the excellence of his intentions won for Lord Shaftesbury's public conduct invariable sympathy and indulgence. A life such as his offers in these days, when philanthropy is too often a device of political intrigue, lessons that the English people are scarcely likely to neglect.

QUIETA NON MOVERE.

In spite of all that is being said and written on the subject of the rebellion in Eastern Roumelia, it is apparent that very little is really known with respect either to the origin of the rising or to its probable consequences. It was natural that, in the first instance, the movement should have been attributed solely to Russian intrigue. In furtherance of her own interests Russia has never ceased to exercise her whole influence in support of the Slav races of the Balkan Peninsula against the Turkish Empire. The Treaty of Berlin checked for a time the realisation of her hopes, but it did not extinguish them. Nothing, therefore, seemed more likely than that in the opinion of the Czar and his advisers the time had arrived for striking another blow at the integrity of Turkey; and it appeared by no means improbable that the matter might have been settled beforehand at the recent meeting of the Austrian and Russian Emperors at Kremsier. The two great rivals in South-Eastern Europe might, it was thought, have arrived at an understanding satisfactory to both parties and calculated at once to further Russian designs on Constantinople and Austrian intentions with respect to Salonica. This theory of Russian instigation of, and Austrian acquiescence in, the revolution in Eastern Roumelia certainly had much to recommend it on the score of intrinsic probability; but, on the other hand, there are certainly some tolerably solid reasons for doubting whether this account of what has occurred is, after all, the true one. That Russia has always intended and still intends to bring about the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia is beyond doubt. The formation of a powerful Bulgarian State was the primary object at which she aimed at the conclusion of the war of 1877. Certainly the "Greater Bulgaria" of the Treaty of San Stefano was to have reached southwards to the Ægean; but although compelled at the Berlin Congress to abandon this latter feature of her scheme, Russia has never faltered in her intention of enlarging the territory of Bulgaria at least to the extent of incorporating with it the province of Eastern Roumelia. What Russia, however, desired to see established was not simply a big Bulgaria, but a Bulgaria submissive to Russian dictation; and Prince Alexander has of late, as is well known incurred the serious displeasure of the Czar by the spirit of independence which he has manifested. We may well believe, therefore, that the Revolution in Eastern Roumelia has, from the Russian point of view, broken out at least prematurely, and that the Czar decidedly objects to the formation of a strong Bulgarian State unless it is ruled by a Prince who is content to assume the *rôle* of a mere Muscovite puppet. Hence there is probable truth in the prevailing belief that Russia intends to advocate the formal sanction by Europe of the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, but at the same time to demand the deposition of Prince Alexander in punishment of his breach of treaty obligations. Nor does it seem possible for the rest of the Powers lightly to pass over what the British Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday justly stigmatised as "an unprovoked breach "of a solemn Treaty."

The immediate outlook in the Balkan peninsula is anything but a reassuring one. There is but too much reason to fear lest the whole Eastern question may now be once more reopened. The rising in Roumelia is likely to be followed by a general upheaval of the various populations of the Balkan peninsula, who, it is very evident, entertain no very marked respect towards each other's "infant "liberties." Roumania and Servia resent the aggrandisement of Bulgaria, by whom they strongly object to being overshadowed. Greece is equally hostile to Bulgaria, because there exists a large Greek population in Eastern Roumelia. But the Servian and Hellenic kingdoms are also rivals, for each of them desires to annex Macedonia. Macedonia, as the able and well-informed writer of "Con-"temporary Life and Thought in Turkey" points out in the *Contemporary Review*, is the general battlefield of all the conflicting interests in the Balkan peninsula. The Turks hold it, the Greeks and Bulgarians claim it, the Servians and Albanians assert their claims, and Austria covets it. Russia, too, is active there. Matters may be smoothed over for the present; but whenever the final dismemberment of Turkey takes place, it is evident that there are here all the materials for a grand conflagration. The proposal for a Federation of the Balkan States may be dismissed as utterly and hopelessly impracticable. A partition of Turkish dominions between Greece, Bulgaria, Servia, and Montenegro would inevitably be followed by internal conflicts and ultimately by anarchy. Such a state of chaos must at last bring the two great rivals Austria and Russia face to face with each other in a deadly struggle for the final mastery. Even now, unless they can be restrained by the influence of the European Powers, there seems every prospect that Servia, Greece, and Montenegro, all of whom are arming, will take violent action. In that case it is difficult to see how Austria, who is committed to the support of King Milan, could remain a passive spectator of the strife, or refrain from at once pushing forward towards her ultimate goal, which is Salonica; while Russia might be expected to make a similar effort to reach Constantinople. The only hope for the maintenance of the European peace is that the "rising "nationalities," over whom our Gladstonian Radicals are so much given to gushing, may be prevented from flying at each other's throats. It may be anticipated that Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia will be incorporated into one province, or at least be placed under the government of one ruler, while they will still be forced to acknowledge the suzerainty of the Porte.

Enough has been said to show that everything depends on the question whether Europe is united in the aim to keep things quiet as long as possible. That is, we may hope, the spirit of the instructions sent to the various Ambassadors who are to meet in Conference on Tuesday at Constantinople. It is to be feared that the accord between the Great Powers, if it exists at all, will not be found to go beyond a unanimous desire to postpone the disruption of the Turkish Empire. It the worst comes, and in the event of the final dissolution and partition of Turkey, it would, of course, be absolutely necessary—whoever might hold Constantinople—that Egypt should fall to the lot of this country. And yet it is precisely at such a juncture as the present that Mr. Gladstone has the sagacity and prudence to suggest that we should scuttle out of Egypt as soon as possible.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

On Monday evening last the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, the Chief Secretary, and the Lord Chancellor met in consultation at Dublin Castle, to consider the state of the country. It was high time that they should do so; and it may fairly be assumed that the postponement of the Cabinet Council, which was to have been held on Tuesday last, is due to the wish of Lord Salisbury and the other members of the Government to avail themselves of the knowledge and views of the Irish Executive on the present state of affairs in Ireland. When the Cabinet meets on Tuesday next, they will have all the facts before them, and we trust that they will come to a decision worthy of themselves and of the country.

The issue is one of the gravest that could be brought before any Cabinet: it is neither more nor less than this—whether the Government is to succeed or fail in the first duty of rulers, the preserving the people committed to their charge in peace and safety. The state of things in Ireland is absolutely intolerable. One of the severest punishments that could be inflicted upon a Roman citizen—the *interdictio aquæ et ignis*—is dealt out right and left upon rich and poor, helpless widows and labouring men, at the will of the village tyrants of the National League. The Irish Nationalist papers teem with reports of meetings at which sentences of this nature, sentences which are formally recorded and rigidly enforced, are promulgated. It is worth while to quote an example of the working of the boycotting system of punishment from the report of the *Times* correspondent. A telegram sent to a boycotted person in Roscommon could not be delivered—no messenger dared to carry it. A widow who lived with her daughter and grandchildren presumed to lend her horses to a magistrate. She was promptly boycotted. Her labourers left her employment. The butcher and the baker refused to supply her wants. She went to a master baker in Limerick with whom she had dealt for twenty-five years, and he promised that she should have bread; but his manager told him that if he kept his word every man in his employment would leave him, and he was forced to withdraw his promise. But for the police, who gave the unhappy lady some food, she and her family might have starved. The correspondent of the *Times* continues:—"She wrote to her brother "in Kilmerock to ask him to send and take "the children, as she had no one to mind "them. The fact becoming known, his own "neighbours warned him not to send, as, if he "did, he would himself be boycotted. The "result was that she had to make her sub-"mission to the League, and sign a pledge "never to supply the police or other authori-"ties again. The master of the county "hounds has subscribed £100 to the funds of "the League, as the price of being allowed to "hunt. These are illustrations of Ireland en-"joying the blessings of peace under the ordi-"nary law."

Will English statesmen endure that this state of things shall continue in a country which they undertake to govern? We believe that they will not endure it—that the difficult task of putting down boycotting will be faced, grappled with, and overcome. James I. of Scotland swore that he would "make the "bracken bush keep the cow," and, impossible as the task seemed at the time, he succeeded. The work of repressing lawlessness may be harder to-day than it was then, for it is more difficult to put down secret terrorism than open violence; but the word "impossible" should not be heard in connection with a duty like this. The one necessity is that no considerations of expediency, no natural reluctance on the part of Lord Carnarvon to dissipate the good feeling

with which he is regarded in Ireland, shall be allowed to interfere with the supreme duty of protecting the people from an intolerable and lawless tyranny. There will no doubt be a wish on the part of the rulers of Ireland that if possible they should prosecute their difficult task without creating a bitter antagonism between themselves and the Irish Parliamentary party. It would no doubt be an incalculable advantage if the men whom, after all, a majority of the Irish people have chosen as their leaders, could be enlisted on the side of order and good government. There are even signs that Mr. PARNELL and his friends have become alarmed at the spread of the evil which they have hatched. It is reported that they meditate the formal condemnation of boycotting, except—the exception is more than significant—when applied to matters directly affecting "land-grabbing." We are confident that Lord CARNARVON will be able to steer a true course in this respect; but we venture to remind him that the plan of relying upon Mr. PARNELL to help in governing Ireland has been tried already, and has failed. When the soil of Ireland was reeking with innocent blood, the Irish Parliamentary leaders did not dare to denounce in public what they condemned in private. The weapon was not altogether to their liking, but it served their purpose well. They have found a new weapon. Men are not to be shot, but starved out and ruined. The new instrument is safer, pleasanter in every way, than the old one, and quite as effectual; and the National League kindly consent to advise that it should not be used except for their own more immediate purposes. The rulers of Ireland will act wisely if they place no great reliance upon help coming from such a quarter.

But, it may be said, if the Conservative Government quarrel with the Parnellites, they will lose the Irish Vote in England and Scotland, as well as in Ireland, and with it all hope of securing a majority at the coming elections. We will not insult Lord SALISBURY and his Cabinet by imagining for a moment that such a consideration will have a feather's weight for them. When the path of duty in such a matter is clear, men of honour want no further advice. Better a thousand times, they will say, that the Conservative party should remain in Opposition for half a century, than that we should refuse to defend the weakest class of HER MAJESTY'S subjects from an illegal tyranny, in the hopes of retaining power by the votes of the majority. There is, indeed, only one word which would fitly describe such conduct, and that word is—treason. HER MAJESTY'S present advisers are the last men in the world to whom such a course of action is possible. The only fear is that, with the best intentions, they should carry conciliation towards the leaders of the disloyal party too far, and wait too long before crushing the terrorism that holds the greater part of Ireland in its grip. It may be necessary to proclaim the National League as an illegal association, to resume the abandoned powers of changing the venue in trials, and of examining on oath persons who are not charged with any offence. It may become necessary for the very existence of a police force that they should be permitted to take supplies from unwilling tradesmen upon an emergency, paying, of course, the ordinary prices. If it is objected that such a policy would have the effect of "driving the disease "inwards," we reply that that is the best thing that could happen. The mere wish to boycott a man will not hurt him. The truth is that the temper of many of the more ignorant and turbulent of the Irish people is as bad as it can be. Every attempt to conciliate them is regarded as a sign of weakness; and we very much fear that so long as the pestilent National League is allowed to exist things will not mend. True, the League would probably live on as a secret society, but as a secret society its power for evil would not be a tenth part of what it is at present. Those who are now its unwilling or half-willing adherents would be encouraged and strengthened in their resistance. The Catholic clergy would be forced to withdraw their support from it, for not one of them would dare to give the sacraments to its members, whom they would be compelled to regard as excommunicated. This of itself would do much to confine a secret League to the reckless and criminal part of the population; and a revival of the League under a new name would have to be met by a fresh proclamation.

There is no time for delay; every week the audacity of the National League and its power for evil are increasing. It will not do to postpone action until after the elections, on the ground that nothing can be done without a new Act. The most vigorous efforts to repress boycotting and all illegal action on the part of the League should be made at once. Speaking at Dorset a few days ago, the late HOME SECRETARY asked for an overwhelming majority for the Liberals, as "the only party "which had the courage and the honesty to "face the Parnellites. The taunt should not be thrown away. Better by far lose the Irish vote, than justly forfeit the confidence of the English people.

OUTSIDE THE UMBRELLA.

As most people expected, the umbrella unfolded by Mr. GLADSTONE has not proved to be large enough to satisfy the requirements of all sections of the Liberal party. The Radicals have made up their minds to walk outside its shelter, unless it is stretched so as to meet their views. This is an important decision; and in order to provide it with the necessary appearance of popular support, it has been determined, we are told, to open a new "campaign." The metropolis, it appears, is to be favoured by being made the scene of the Radical propaganda, which is to be carried on by a series of demonstrations under the auspices of the Radical leaders. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, of course, is to be in command of the field, as the future successor to Mr. GLADSTONE. That is a post of honour for which he is already designated by Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT'S favour. "You may be pretty certain," caustically remarked the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER at Salisbury, "when you see any "prominent Liberal the particular object of "Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT'S political worship, "that that person is the coming Leader of the "party to which Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT "belongs." The late PRESIDENT of the BOARD of TRADE is certain to draw a crowd whenever his appearance is announced; and the ability to make a rattling speech and win "loud and "long-continued cheering" from a public meeting—apparently the chief qualification nowadays for a seat in the Cabinet—is the one thing necessary for carrying on a campaign of this sort with success.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN can do more, however, than make a telling and amusing speech. The points which he has selected for his ultimatum—his present ultimatum, that is—have been chosen with considerable skill. These points are (1) the abolition of fees in Elementary schools, and (2) power for the local authorities of the future to take land compulsorily for "allotments." It would have been difficult or impossible to hit upon two proposals more admirably calculated to win the votes of working men with families (who now form the great majority of the constituencies), both in the towns and in the country. Free education—*i.e.*, education at the cost of the taxpayers—offers complete relief from an expense which working men find alway troublesome and often burdensome; while the demand for allotments will please both urban and rural voters. It will tempt the peasantry to vote with the Radicals; and it will gratify the unskilled labourers in the towns, by promising to do something to check the ceaseless flow of agricultural labourers to the large cities, where they necessarily compete with the working men of the towns, and lessen their share of work. And, carefully as the Radical ultimatum has been constructed to suit the wishes of the working classes, it is not less excellently devised for another purpose. The breach between the Whigs and the extreme party has not been made too wide. The question of Free schools is not in itself of any great magnitude, if all Elementary schools are to be placed on an equal footing; and it will be observed that in demanding that the local authorities should have power to take land for the needs of the peasantry, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN uses the word "allotments" instead of "farms" or "small holdings." The two things are entirely different. Land for workmen's dwellings may be as much a necessity in the country as in the towns; and if cottages are to be built by local authorities, to provide a bit of garden-ground, or an allotment of reasonable size, is not going very much farther. We are not arguing in favour of these provisions; we are only pointing out that the Radical leader has carefully chosen the spot where he has planted his foot. He has not made his requirements so large that the old umbrella may not possibly be stretched so as to cover them. In these days of camel-swallowing, Lord HARTINGTON and his friends may be thankful that larger demands have not been made upon them as the price of the Radical alliance; for in spite of public vapourings among the Radicals, and private bickerings among the Whigs, both Lord HARTINGTON and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN know very well that if either of them are ever again to sit in a Liberal Cabinet they must sit there side by side. Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH is amply justified in his prophecy that "the time will come when Mr. GLADSTONE "will prove completely to his satisfaction that "all Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S proposals were in-"cluded in his political Manifesto—when "Lord HARTINGTON will follow lazily in the "Birmingham triumph, and when Mr. "GOSCHEN, after a long and convincing protest, "will bring up the rear." Such an anticipation does these distinguished men no injustice, because, as Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH observed, "they have all done pre-"cisely the same thing before."

But if Mr. CHAMBERLAIN is moderate in his specific demands, the principles upon which he bases these demands and the interpretation which is placed upon these principles by his followers are such as no patriotic Englishman can view without repugnance and alarm. Some days ago the Radical leader pointed out that in France, Germany, Spain, and other countries "the capital is the centre of Liberal "feeling. It leads the van, and it gives "authority and emphasis and definition to "the most advanced opinion." Advanced indeed! Can Mr. CHAMBERLAIN point to any definite thing which the Radicalism of Paris has accomplished, since the time when it drowned the city in fire and blood, except expelling the members of the religious orders (against whom no accusation had ever been brought), and forbidding the priests to visit the hospitals and the nuns to nurse the patients? Can the Radical leader be aware that the Liberalism of Madrid keeps Spain in perpetual fear of revolution, and that in Berlin the number of votes recorded for avowed Socialists has risen from 67 in 1867, and 2,038 in 1871, to 68,582 in 1884? Are these examples which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN would like to see followed in London? Again, we can see but one meaning in such words as these, which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN used last week:—"It is because I "believe that the condition of the poor is one "of great and unmerited hardship, and "because I know that hundreds and thousands "of men are living miserable, mean, and joy-"less lives in the midst of the wealth and "luxury by which they are surrounded, "without pleasure in the present and without "hope in the future, that I repudiate "altogether the only advice which Lord IDDES-"LEIGH has to tender to the new electors." These words cannot surely have been used for the unworthy purpose of advertising the speaker's sympathy with the poor without any intention of alleviating their condition; nor were they used with any intention of inducing the auditors to put their hands in their pockets for the relief of distress. They could only mean that the power of the State is to be invoked to do something to remedy the inequality between rich and poor. A "Social "Democrat," who addressed a meeting outside the hall in which these words were spoken, supplied by anticipation the hiatus which was left in the argument of his leader. He called upon his audience "to rally round Mr. CHAM-"BERLAIN and men like him, so that the people "might have their own again, and so that "the wealth enjoyed by the few should be "shared by the many." This programme would not, perhaps, suit Mr. CHAMBERLAIN; but the proposal made outside the hall was only the legitimate and natural complement of the words used inside the building.

UNDER FALSE PRETENCES.

The Radical party, as might have been expected, are making use of the short interval before the newly-enfranchised masses of ignorant and needy voters are called upon to exercise the franchise for the first time, to "descend," as Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH has said, "to that meanest form of bribery—to "purchase the votes of a class without the "expense of a single penny to the purchaser, "at the cost of another section of the com-"munity." It is the duty of all who possess the power and the opportunity of doing so, to endeavour to expose the utter hollowness of these vague promises, and to show the impossibility of their performance. What, for instance, can be more reprehensible than that an ex-Cabinet Minister like Mr. CHAMBERLAIN should lend himself to an unprincipled attempt to persuade the agricultural labourers that every man is entitled to a share of the land in which he was born, and that "the landlord, the parson, "and the farmer" have hitherto been conspiring to oppress him? As Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH observed at Salisbury, we hear little now from our Radical orators about the tenant-farmer. "It is the interests of the "agricultural labourer which they profess to "be solicitous of; and it is a very remarkable "thing how this great care and regard of the "Liberal party for the interests of the agri-"cultural labourer coincides precisely in point "of time with the date at which the agri-"cultural labourer has got his vote." An illustration of the way in which the Radicals are striving to win the labourers' support is forthcoming in Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT'S promise that they are to have homes of their own, and should no longer depend upon the precarious subsistence of weekly wages. Is it not obvious, however, that if the labourer has a freehold or lifehold or long leasehold house, he will have to pay the rates upon it and keep it in repair? And is it after all, as the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER pertinently asked, to the benefit of the labourer thus to tie him down to a particular cottage, and so hinder him from moving, if he chooses, elsewhere where he can get more work or better wages? And as to his subsisting on weekly wages, will he be better off as a small farmer? With his weekly wages, low as they may be, he can buy the necessaries of life very cheaply; and he would scarcely find himself better off as a small farmer, liable to suffer from the low prices at which he is compelled to sell his produce.

Nothing can be more certain than that the wretched dupes of this unprincipled agitation are doomed to utter and speedy disappointment. No legislation can do what Mr. CHAMBERLAIN promises on its behalf. Parliament, as Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH says, cannot make a drunkard sober, an idle man industrious, the spendthrift frugal, the careless man careful. Soil and climate are far more potent factors than any land laws in determining the condition of an agricultural population. Only by individual effort and self-denial can the poor become rich; and to ignore these truths, to preach another gospel to ignorant people, is to make promises which can never be fulfilled, and to obtain votes under false pretences. As a writer in *Blackwood's Magazine* points out, if the holding of small allotments by labourers, whether as freehold or at a low rent, were a paying concern, there would be plenty of such holdings without any of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S new-fangled and ill-considered legislation. It would be adopted everywhere. The fact that it has not been adopted shows that it would not pay. Every one desires that a labourer should always have a good garden to his cottage; but if he acquires more land than he requires for a garden, it is very doubtful whether it will bring him any benefit. When a man works at another trade it is a good plan for him to have a plot of land to work at in addition to his trade; but a labourer who works for wages cannot, like the other class of holder, devote his whole time and labour to his own holding. He has only the surplus labour of each day to bestow on his allotment, after he has finished his day's work for his master. To give him a freehold allotment is only to embarrass him and place him in a false position. He could never get out of his piece of land enough to maintain his family; and the result in the end would be to replace the existing class of thriving labourers by a class of pauperised freeholders.

The Free Land League advocate the acquirement of land by municipalities and corporate bodies, with the object of letting it out in small holdings. Conservatives, at all events, can have no objection in principle to the policy of increasing the number of people who shall become the owners of land. But this, as the writer alluded to points out, has nothing to do with the promises of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and his Radical allies. The gain he promises them is utterly illusory and visionary. The true interest of the agricultural labourer is that the owners and occupiers of land should be secure and prosperous, so that employment may be continuous and wages assured. But that is precisely the object which the present agitation is calculated to frustrate. The so-called "re-"formers," as the Duke of ARGYLL shows in the *Contemporary Review*, are advocating all manner of limitations on the ownership of land, which practically "destroy "ownership altogether by dividing it between "a duality and a multiplicity of interests, with "no intelligible principle to regulate the divi-"sion, and with no freedom between man and "man to settle matters of business on business "principles." The extent to which, and form in which, they advocate State interference must scare away commercial capital, because it renders the reward of outlay artificially precarious. They are aiming their blows at capital, but the injury will be done to labour; and it is the duty of all Conservatives to resist proposals so dangerous and destructive not merely to one class but to society as a whole.

THE NEGLECT OF BAPTISM.

The extract which we print elsewhere from the Charge recently delivered by the Bishop of Argyll to his Diocesan Synod, on the prevalent neglect of the Sacrament of Baptism, is deserving of all possible attention; calculated, as it certainly is, to open the eyes of Churchmen to the existence of a condition of things of which few probably are aware. The Bishop assures his clergy, as a positive fact which he has himself taken special pains to investigate during the whole of his ministerial life, that "a very large proportion of "the inhabitants, both of Scotland and of "England, have never been baptised at all;" and further that "of those who think "they have been baptised, a considerable "number have no sufficient ground for "their supposition." This deplorable state of affairs prevails especially in our large towns, in most of which the proportion of the unbaptised would, as the Bishop of Argyll says, astonish those who have not taken the trouble personally to ascertain the truth of the matter, as he has done. This conclusion is only too amply confirmed by others who speak with authority on the subject. At the Swansea Church Congress six years ago a Winchester clergyman, Mr. G. A. Seymour, stated that hardly more than 10 per cent. of the people in our large towns are baptised in the English Church, though some, of course, receive Baptism elsewhere. He considered that among Christian nations England was in this particular the lowest in the scale, except perhaps America. With reference to this statement an estimate was published of the proportion of Baptisms to Births in the town of Leicester during the three years 1877, 1878, and 1879. The Registrar's returns showed that in Leicester during those years 14,229 children were born, while the number of Baptisms in the same period was only 9,218, of which 7,700 were administered in the English Church, 264 by Roman Catholics, and 1,184 by Protestant Dissenters—this last including the adults baptised by the Anabaptists. Thus it is to be concluded that no less than one-third of the children born in Leicester were unbaptised; and there is, of course, no antecedent reason to suppose Leicester to be worse than any other town in this respect. On the contrary, there are localities of which we know from authentic statistics that their condition is very much worse than that of Leicester.

If it is shocking to learn that only 64·8 per cent. of the children born in Leicester are baptised, what is to be thought of the state of no less than five populous districts in the diocese of Winchester, where the average proportion of Baptisms to Births is only 55·7 per cent.? We append the figures for the period between 1876 and 1879, compiled by a committee appointed to inquire into the subject. In Winchester the percentage of Baptisms to Births was 79·6; in Ringwood, 67·3; in Southampton, 66·8; in the Isle of Wight, 58·3; and in Portsmouth, 45·8. At Portsmouth in 1876 the percentage had actually been as low as 38·3. Even these localities, however, are better off than certain others that can be named. The neglect of Baptism in such places as Birmingham, Cardiff, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Nottingham, and South Shields, is simply appalling, as may be gathered from the fact that the average proportion of Baptisms to Births appears actually to be only 14 per cent. In certain parts of London the state of the case is quite as bad. A writer who had made careful and laborious inquiries in every part of London, extending in some cases over a period of ten years, and published the results of his investigations in 1878, showed conclusively that throughout the whole of the Metropolis not more than an average of 17 per cent. of the children born are baptised. For the North of London he took St. Pancras' parish and its district churches, of which (including the Foundling Hospital) there are 23. Here the percentage of Baptisms is 19. The inquiries made in South London included in their scope the Church Registers of Southwark, Lambeth, Camberwell, Walworth, Clapham, Norwood, Kennington, and Peckham — sixty-eight churches in all. The number of children baptised by the Church in these parishes is only 17 out of every 100. From a similar examination in West London of the Registers of Paddington, Kensington, Brompton, Notting-hill, and Hammersmith, the average number of Baptisms during four years was found to be 22 in every 100 children born. In East London, where careful investigation was made in the case of thirty-nine churches, the proportion of baptised children was found, on an average of seven years, to amount to only 14 per cent. of the number born.

The practical conclusion from these deplorable facts is that the clergy must exercise far greater vigilance than as a rule they have been accustomed to do. As the Bishop of Argyll remarks, "under no circumstances and in no "rank of life is it safe to take Baptism as a "matter of course." In his own experience, which we are sure can be borne out by many of the clergy, the Bishop has had to administer Baptism to dying persons of mature age, as well as to candidates for Confirmation. In one instance, which occurred at Edinburgh, nearly half the candidates had to be baptised before they were presented to the Bishop. Similarly it is recorded that, more than a hundred years ago, in 1762, Bishop Forbes baptised no fewer than 76 out of the 260 candidates for Confirmation presented to him at Ballachulish. In the case of those especially who come for Confirmation or to be prepared for Holy Communion, and above all in the case of sick and dying persons, it is incumbent on the clergy in every instance to ascertain whether Baptism has been previously received. There is, observes the Bishop of Argyll, no warrant for assuming that such is the fact. On the contrary, it is much safer to assume that it is otherwise, and in every doubtful case to make use of the conditional form provided in the Prayer-Book. And as for the Baptism of infants, great results may be obtained by increased watchfulness on the part of the clergy and Church workers. We have already alluded to the deplorable state of affairs prevailing at Portsmouth and Southampton; but though much remains to be done in those towns, something, however little, has been effected already by care and painstaking. In 1876 the Portsmouth percentage of Baptisms was only 38·3 of the Births; yet by increased diligence it was raised in 1879 to 56·5. So in Southampton it was raised from 62·5 to 70·7. We should naturally expect to find that in a parish where Church principles are faithfully taught the proportion of Baptisms will be higher than in one where the Church's doctrines are lightly esteemed; and it is instructive to notice that, according to the investigation already referred to as having been carried out in the Metropolis, the Baptisms at St. Alban's, Holborn, reach the highest percentage in the City of London, 23 in 100; while the lowest (so far as we know, the very lowest in England) is reached at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, where it stands at 4 in 100. The Rector of this parish (of "Hang Theology" fame) is well known for his strong and uncompromising hostility to the Athanasian Creed. This contrast is an extreme one; but the case is fairly typical of what may be found everywhere. A good deal of the evil we have been describing is due to simple negligence; but much of it may also be traced to the heretical opinions concerning Holy Baptism and the gross contempt for Christ's Ordinance prevalent among Puritans and Rationalists. The remedy lies, not only in zealously searching out the unbaptised, but in resolutely working to restore to its rightful position the Catholic doctrine of the Sacrament of Regeneration.

We are glad to see that a beginning has been made in the work which we advocated a fortnight ago—the selection of candidates for the London School Board who shall be pledged to oppose the extravagance which has hitherto had full swing. Strange to say, it is the rating authorities, not the ratepayers, who have taken the first practical steps in the matter. The rating authorities of Westminster met on Tuesday at the Westminster Town-hall, and determined that the candidates for the School Board Election for Westminster should be invited to meet them, and that after the meeting those candidates who seemed to entertain satisfactory opinions on the subject of economy should be recommended to the constituents. We confess that this method seems to us to savour of the Caucus rather more than we like. However, it is a great thing that a beginning should have been made; and the Conference resolved to take the further step of trying to carry five candidates who should be pledged to economy, one in each of the five Parliamentary divisions of Westminster. If the other divisions of the metropolis follow the example of Westminster, the days of unlimited expenditure and ruinous school rates will be numbered, so far as London is concerned; and—what is, perhaps, of even greater importance—School Boards throughout the country will receive a most salutary warning.

Owing to an unfortunate transposition, the sense of Mr. Gladstone-Lingham's letter, which appeared in our last issue, was, we regret to say, entirely lost. Line 16, col. 3, p. 627 should have read on to line 48, col. 4, thus:—"Enormous quantities of goods, which used to be made in Great Britain and purchased by India, are now manufactured under Government auspices by the people of India. This turn in affairs was brought about by a heavy depreciation in the currency of India, owing to a fall to bullion prices of silver as a metal. The depreciation in silver resulted in a loss by exchange of nearly 22 per cent., which had to be added on to the price of every article purchased here for export to India," &c., down to the words "manufactured goods." Again, line 47, col. 4, should have been followed by line 17, col. 3, thus:—"The truth is, the Professor is a thick-and-thin supporter of Radical doctrines. There is something eminently absurd in the lofty disdain with which he regards the action of France, Germany, and the United States in abstaining from the worship of his idol Free Trade. 'If these nations,' he tells us, 'sacrifice their national interests, that is no valid reason why we should do the same.' In what way do they 'sacrifice national interests'? By a system of Protection they have built up a manufacturing industry which threatens to swamp our own, even in the field which yet remains open in our own dependency of India," &c., &c.

Reviews.

COUNT DE FALLOUX.*

Count de Falloux introduces us to a section of French society with which we are unfortunately too little familiar now. M. Clémenceau, M. Ferry, M. Jolfrin, M. Paul Bert, and M. Brisson are so constantly before the public just at present that we almost forget the existence of Frenchmen such as the Duke de Broglie, M. Maxime Ducamp, and M. de Pressensé; in this age of revolvers, personalities, scandal, and abuse, we are sometimes led to inquire if there is such a thing as what was formerly called *la société polie*, and the fierce denunciations of Opportunists by Possibilists, and of Collectivists by Anarchists suggests to us the thought: In what camp shall we seek for those who really love their country and are anxious for its true happiness?

Whatever the answer may be to these queries, no hesitation is possible in the case of Count de Falloux. Whether he discusses the problem of agriculture or reports on M. de Monthyon's prizes; whether he indulges in a delightful *causerie* on music or pronounces the *éloge* of his predecessor at the Académie Française, he is still the same honest, true-hearted, undaunted Frenchman; a Royalist with decidedly Liberal tendencies; a fervent Roman Catholic of the Montalembert *nuance*; a distinguished representative of that party to which are earnestly looking all those who feel that the Revolutionists have come to the end of their tether, and given the world the full measure of their ability for mischief.

In collecting together, under the title *Etudes et Souvenirs*, the fifteen articles which compose this volume, Count de Falloux has followed a now universally accepted custom. One of the most interesting of these essays—the one, probably, to which our readers will turn immediately—treats of the massacre of the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's Day. This, we all know, is still a *vexata quæstio*. Was the *coup d'état* premeditated or not? Must it be regarded as having been, if not ordered, at any rate sanctioned, by the Court of Rome? On these two points our author answers in the negative; and although he has failed to convince us, yet his arguments are very ingenious, and show a considerable amount of plausibility. He traces the origin of the massacre to the Court of the Valois, and he argues that with Catherine de Medici the question of religion was one of very little importance; she ordered the destruction of the Huguenots merely because she found she could not make use of them as her tools, and, to employ a vulgar but picturesque expression, it was just a toss-up whether she would become a quasi-Calvinist or stand forth as more Papist than the Pope himself. She ultimately adopted the latter alternative.

"Where," says Count de Falloux, "must we "seek for the inspiring principle of St. Bartho-"lomew's Day? In an altogether political thought, "stamped with the detestable spirit which ani-"mated Catherine de Medici. Not only religion "did not place the dagger in the hand of the "murderers; it would have warded off the blow "if it had enjoyed any influence in the midst of a "Court full of adulteries and of intrigues. Cathe-"rine was much more anxious about the stability "of her power than about the perils of the "Church, and under that preoccupation every-"thing was for her a cause of umbrage—Con-"stable de Montmorency and the House of "Lorraine quite as much as the Prince "de Condé and Admiral Coligny. She cer-"tainly weighed more than once, and probably "on the eve of St. Bartholomew's Day, the advan-"tages which her narrow and selfish jealousy "would derive from a Catholic or a Protestant "massacre. The imprudence of the Huguenots "at the marriage of Henry of Navarre, and the "almost universal murmurings of public opinion "amongst the Catholics against the great influence "of the Sectarians determined her choice. The "Admiral, wishing to hurry Charles IX. into the "quarrel about the Netherlands, and openly "aiming at ruining the credit of the Queen-"Mother, hastened the catastrophe. The murder "of Coligny warned Catherine that the Guises, "backed by the sympathy of the nation, might, "whenever they chose, avenge with their own "hands the insults offered to them."

Count de Falloux insists most strongly upon the religious indifference of Catherine de Medici. "We do not calumniate the wretched Queen," says he, "when we affirm that she would have directed "the point of the dagger quite as readily against "the Catholics as against the Huguenots. The best "proof that she would have done so is that she "did it. For what do we read on the other side "of the blood-stained page containing the narra-"tive of St. Bartholomew's Day? The murder of a "prince of the Roman Church, the hero of the "Catholics."

But we must not linger any more amongst the tragic scenes of the sixteenth century; if only by way of a contrast, it is pleasant to turn to the annals of charity as unfolded in the biographical memoirs devoted by Count de Falloux to Sister Rosalie and to Madame de Pastoret. The former of these essays is all the more interesting because it gives an account not only of a distinguished Christian lady, but of her original historian, M. de Melun. Touching incidentally on the subject of ingratitude, Count de Falloux says very truly:—"Alas! why should we complain that we are "surrounded by ungrateful persons? Has God "been deterred by the ingratitude of His creatures? "When He sacrificed Himself for the redemption "of mankind did He think that mankind would "remain kneeling, ever attentive and grateful, re-"paying His infinite compassion with unchanging "love? No, no; that illusion, which had found "no access to the Garden of Olives, did not ascend "the slopes of Calvary, and the faithlessness "of the future was mercifully contemplated at "the very time when the sins of the past were "redeemed."

It would be a serious mistake not to leave our readers under the impression of this last beautiful thought; we shall merely add, by way of conclusion, that Count de Falloux has rendered a real service by the publication of his *Etudes et Souvenirs*. We find at every page the spirit which suggested many years ago the biographies of Mdme. Swetchine and of M. Augustin Cochin; and if *that* spirit animated to a great degree those who call themselves Roman Catholics, we should not hear so much about the baneful influence of *clericals* and the blessings of free-thought.

* *Etudes et Souvenirs.* Par le Comte de Falloux, de l'Académie Française. 8vo. Paris: Perrin, 1885.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

We (*Athenæum*) are sorry to have to say that the tinkering at Westminster Abbey to which we called attention a few weeks ago is still going on. The curious iron grating at the head of the doorway leading into the Chapel of St. John the Baptist has now disappeared, to come back, we suppose, after a time, "as good as new." Will not some one in authority at the Abbey interfere to stop this kind of mischief?

Examination of the models for the new Admiralty and War Offices, exhibited at 18, Spring-gardens, shows that it will be a source of enduring regret and disappointment if the buildings are carried out on the plan proposed. The minor interior courts are radically wrong, much too small for beauty and dignity, and utterly insufficient for the ventilation of the buildings adjacent to them, even if the latter are only used as corridors giving access to the rooms opening on the exterior façades. Technically, the exterior, although amended, is commonplace and inartistic. At the best the design has very few marks of more than ordinary ability, and of genius not a tittle. Carefully enriched with trivial decorations, such as pattern books supply, the exterior lacks animation, purpose, energy, and fitness to function. The country will be sadly disappointed if so tame a building be erected to augment the dulness of metropolitan architecture. We without hesitation repeat the advice we have already given, that the architects should be handsomely compensated for their trouble and another design chosen. Two at least of the competing designs were superior to theirs, one of them immeasurably so. It is unlikely we could get a less promising design than that selected.—*Athenæum.*

The *Athenæum* believes that the brief but striking summary of the principal events in the dealings of the Imperial and Colonial Governments with Bechuanaland, lately printed from official documents, is from the pen of Sir Charles Warren. It is most useful for purposes of reference.

Messrs. George Bell and Sons are about to publish *A Guide to the Textual Criticism of the New Testament*, by the Rev. Edward Miller, author of *Irvingism* and *The Church in Relation to the State*. In a short treatise the case is stated on behalf of those who refuse to follow Lachmann, and to accept the conclusions of Profs. Westcott and Hort.

"A Chapter on Bookbinding," by Mr. Bernard Quaritch, appears among the contents of the October number of Mr. Walford's *Antiquarian*, which also includes a paper by Mr. G. A. Aitken "On Steele and some English Grammars of his Time."

The October number of *Merry England* contains special records of Cardinal Newman, commemorative of his reception into the Church of Rome exactly forty years ago, on October 9, 1845. Among other contents will be a collection of the Cardinal's letters addressed to newspapers or to private friends, and published with his sanction, during the last forty years. The letter recently addressed to Frank Power's sister about General Gordon's copy of the *Dream of Gerontius* is given in *facsimile*. Among the illustrations of the number are portraits of his Eminence when he was vicar of St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford, also when he first joined the Roman Church, and as he is now. There is, besides, a curious Newman family group, belonging to a date earlier than that of any of these.

Dr. William Rendle, the veteran author of *Southwark and its People*, has in the press a monograph on *John Harvard, of St. Saviour's, Southwark*. He traces the history of the Harvard family through many changes of name, such as Hayward, Harvie, Harvye, Harver, and so on, and shows how the ancestors of the founder of Harvard University, U.S.A., must have been intimate with Edward Alleyn Henslowe, "Playhouse Henslowe," and other contemporaries of Shakespeare. John Harvard, who founded one of the greatest schools of education in the world, was the son of a Southwark butcher, and was born in 1607. In the preface to his interesting little work the author complains that some of his American

critics have robbed him of the credit of his discoveries—have "taken all the stars to themselves, and awarded him only stripes."

We learn that translations of Professor Vambéry's work, *The Coming Struggle for India*, which was recently published by Messrs. Cassell and Co., are about to appear in France, Germany, and Sweden.

The Royal Academy of the Lincei, in Italy, has made arrangements for the publication of the manuscript known as the *Codice Atlantico*, in the Ambrosian Library at Milan. The publication will extend over a period of eight years and will cost £3,840, the amount required having been obtained by a subscription, to which the King, the Grand Master of the Order of St. Maurice, and the Royal Academy are the principal subscribers. The *Codice Atlantico* is a manuscript about 26in. high by 18in. wide, consisting of 399 sheets and 1,750 drawings, with several volumes the pages of which have been detached and pasted upon large sheets of drawing-paper. It formed part of the 13 manuscripts of Leonardo da Vinci, which were removed from the Ambrosian Library in 1796 by order of Napoleon and sent to Paris, but returned to Milan after the restoration of the Bourbons. The *Codice Atlantico* was presented to the Milan Library in 1637 by Arcomati, together with several other manuscripts, for one of which King Charles I. of England had offered a sum equivalent to £2,400.

Two interesting sections of the new museum in Cromwell-road were on the 10th ult. opened to the public—the new gallery of fishes and the pavilion of the Osteological Department. In the latter are arranged complete skeletons of six elephants, four huge skulls and tusks, skeleton of a giraffe, examples of the flat broad-tailed manatu senegalensis, halicore tabernaculi, from the Red Sea, and the dungong, with skeletons and specimens of their young. The elephant skeletons are of the African, Indian, and Sumatran species. The largest are the Muckna or tuskless elephant, and the Bengal elephant, with very fine tusks, caught by Captain Sanderson in the wild state, but which is reported to have dropped down dead at the entrance to the hated camp into which it was being urged by tame members of its family. Of the four magnificent elephant skulls exhibited one was obtained from the White Nile by Sir S. W. Baker; another, presented by Sir C. Russell, is interesting as showing the succession of grinding teeth, the number developed being limited to six; another is the head of a wild elephant who had long been the terror of a district near Meerut, where he was killed after twenty-three gallant and desperate charges by the officers who presented the skull, the riddled condition of which illustrates the terrible siege sustained by the animal before succumbing. In this room will be shortly exhibited variations of the enormous horns of the Indian arni buffalo. The new fish gallery, which is in size about 140ft. by 50ft., is one of the elegant top-lighted compartments on the north-west of the building, and is approached from the bird gallery on the ground floor. The collections here displayed will form one of the most attractive features of our Natural History Museum. They have been ably arranged by Dr. Günther, F.R.S., keeper of the zoology, whose important work on fishes is universally known. The smaller specimens are arranged in wall-cases, the larger ones on the floor of the room in table-cases and on telescopic stands—the latter being very effective for the display of the denizens of the sea. There are seven table-cases filled with skeletons of fish and illustrations of the variations in teeth, chiefly of the shark—a wonderful combination of dental ferocity and prettiness. So even and beautiful is the arrangement of some of these sets of teeth that simple setting is alone needed to raise them to the rank of charming personal ornaments. A few cases contain specimens of fishes in spirits, and more will probably be added from the unique collection in the separate museum for the spirit-preserved collections. The fox-shark, or thresher, is placed as a sort of sign-board to the new gallery, the centre of which is fitly occupied by the great basking shark caught off the Isle of Wight. Surrounding this monster are specimens of the galeocordo arcticus, from the Mauritius, gigantic rays, sea perches, the sciœna diacanthus from the estuaries of Bengal, sword-fishes of the Indo-Pacific Ocean, with a piece of wood containing fragments of the horn of a specimen which struck the good ship *Farquharson*, penetrating through the copper sheathing and outside lining into one of the floor timbers, where the point of the sword still remains. Dolphins, porbeagle, wolf-fish, opah, or kingfishes, the platy-stoma gigas from the Upper Amazons, the great sun-fish, hammer-headed rays, sturgeon from China, and the Doggerbank, the Sudis gigas, largest and best of the fish of Brazil, and the tunny from the Azores, are among the immediate attendants on the huge basking shark. Other noticeable and fine specimens are the carcharias murrayi, the blue shark of Japan, the fierce odontaspis, the devil fish, inhabitant of the Mediterranean and Atlantic Ocean, attaining a width of nearly 20ft., the notidanus griseus, the saw-fish, deadly enemy of other large fish and the smaller kinds of whales and porpoises, and even of man, the Cape-pike, flying fish, &c. Among the more remarkable specimens in the wall cases may be particularised the zeus conchifer from Mauritius, the eagle rays, zebra shark, stegostoma tigrinum, the perlon and tope from Antarctic regions, the bearded nebrius, the narrow-nosed bony pike, the gaudy-coloured balistes, aldermanic tetrodon blochii, the diodon murœna tassellata, and the gymnothorax; and each of the fishes thus represented may be said to have a history of its own for the special edification of the scientist, while for the non-scientific visitor it contributes to what must become for him an exhibition in London really worth seeing and studying.

By way of contrast it may be noted that M. Bertillon calculated in 1879 the "natality" of some European nations, with the following results:—In Russia there were 50 births for every 1,000 marriageable women; in Bavaria and the surrounding States there were 138; in England, 137; in Sweden, 121; in Switzerland, 112; whilst in France there were only 102. Again, the annual increase of various European nations has been reckoned thus:—In Germany, 11 per 1,000; in England, 12; in Austria proper, 3; in Italy, 7; in Hungary, 5; in Sweden, 5; in Switzerland, 4; and in France barely 3. On all these calculations, observes the *Paris Constitutionnel*, France comes the very last.

Theatres.

The Haymarket opened on Saturday under the new management of Messrs. E. Russell and G. F. Bashford; when there was produced a five-act play by Mr. J. Comyns Carr, *Dark Days*, and founded on Hugh Conway's novelette of that name. To the readers of the story, which appeared at the close of last year, we need hardly say that its transfer to the stage has required a free handling. The novelette takes the form of an autobiography of one Basil North, a young medical man, who suffers on the threshold of his narrative a grievous disappointment. His proposal of marriage to the beautiful half-Spanish, half-English girl Philippa comes, unfortunately, too late. She has already married a man who calls himself Mr. Farmer, but who is no other than Sir Mervyn Ferrand, a baronet of fiction endowed with all the cynical coolness and villainy of his tribe. The latter suspicious circumstance is instantly discovered by North, but the couple have vanished. Two years later the lady returns to her youthful lover to tell a terrible tale of abandonment after a bigamous marriage. The cardinal scene of excitement is the meeting by North of Philippa dashing frantically from a spot whither she bids him in wild and whirling words go and "see the wages of sin." At the spot indicated North finds Ferrand shot dead and lying in the still falling snow. Philippa's reason has given way and no definite memory of the incident remains, but her lover determines imprudently on flight, and the twain find refuge for awhile in Spain. There North devotes himself to the tender care of the woman he loves, till, learning that a man is charged with the crime, he returns with a view to save the innocent, but only to discover that it was the hand of the accused that had taken Mervyn's life, and not that of Philippa, who had simply found the body and fled in terror. By expanding some portions of the story developing certain hints, and introducing what are practically new personages, Mr. Carr has constructed an undoubtedly interesting work. A slowness in the action observable in the first two acts is chiefly attributable to the needless elaboration of the character of Ferrand. Mr. Beerbohm-Tree somewhat overdoes the character of Sir Mervyn, whose unabashed effrontery, cynicism, and selfishness have for the ears of the habitual playgoer no particular freshness. Mr. Pateman plays the part of the insolent, vulgar extortioner Evans, by whose act the baronet is slain at the cross roads, with peculiar energy and concentration. Miss Lingard, as Philippa, hardly played on Saturday with full command of her powers; and a like observation applies to Mr. Barrymore as North. But the truth is that these central personages are rather overshadowed by the elaboration or less essential constituents of the story. For all this, the hero and heroine carried with them a sufficient measure of sympathy. Less prominent parts are carefully played by Miss Lydia Foote, Mr. Charles Sugden, Miss Helen Forsyth, and others. The episode of the murder, in which the crime is quickly followed by the discovery by Philippa and the arrival of her horror-stricken lover, greatly excited the audience, who insisted more than once upon the raising of the curtain. The new management have recruited a strong company, and have maintained the high reputation of the theatre by the liberality and care bestowed upon the scenery and accessories, as well as by every attention to the comfort and convenience of their patrons.

Under the spirited management of M. Mayer, to whom the London public is indebted for thirteen consecutive seasons of French plays, a fourteenth season will be commenced at the Royalty on Saturday next. The opening piece will be *Don Juan d'Autriche*, by Casimir Delavigne, now in course of performance at the Comédie Française. This will be followed by *Le Testament de César Geroldot*, and subsequently by *Fanny Lear*, *Le Camaraderie*, by Scribe; *Mademoiselle de Belle Isle*, by Dumas père; *Marion Venne*, *Fédora*, and many pieces of equal reputation are promised, and the following novelties now in rehearsal in Paris have also been acquired:—*Antoinette Rigaud*, to be given at the Comédie Française; *La Doctoresse*, at the Gymnase; *Sapho*, by MM. Daudet and Belot, also preparing for the Gymnase; and a new play by M. Sardou, to be given at the Vaudeville. A special engagement is that of M. Lacressonière, who will play his original part of Lesurques in *Le Courier de Lyons* (*The Lyons Mail*). A powerful company, to which special additions will be made, has been secured. Altogether the programme of M. Mayer is one of the most appetising that has been provided.

THE NEGLECT OF BAPTISM.

The *Scottish Guardian* reports in full the Charge recently delivered to his Diocesan Synod by the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. We extract the following remarkable passage, dealing with a subject upon which we have commented in our leading columns this week:—

"I have made the matter to which I desire now to call attention a special study during the whole of my ministerial life. I would beg, therefore, that what I state may be accepted, not as the mere result of my own conclusions, but as a certain fact. It is this. That a very large proportion of the inhabitants both of Scotland and of England, have never been baptised at all, and that, of those who think that they have been baptised, a considerable number have no sufficient ground for their supposition. In some Highland and country districts, almost all the people have been baptised, though even in such localities this is by no means universally the case. On the other hand, in most of our large towns the proportion of the unbaptised would astonish those who have hitherto trusted merely to common report, and who have not taken the trouble personally to investigate the matter, as I have done, and to verify the statements carelessly made and passed from mouth to mouth. Under no circumstances, in no rank of life, and in no part of Britain, is it safe to take Baptism as a matter of course. Many a time have I had to administer Baptism to dying persons of mature age, as well as to candidates for Confirmation. Only lately I came across the notes of a Confirmation in Edinburgh, from which I observe that nearly half the candidates, whom I prepared, had to be baptised before they were presented to the Bishop.

"Moreover, from an old record of work in the last century, I see that out of about 260 persons confirmed by Bishop Forbes at Ballachulish on the 8th July, 1762, he baptised no fewer than seventy-six. Of these some, probably, were baptised conditionally, according to the form prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, and at present embodied in the 4th section of our XXXIVth Canon—a section, by the way, to which I wish more general attention were paid. But whatever may have been the circumstances, in the particuliar instance which I have just quoted, the unhappy fact exists that multitudes of our fellow-countrymen are either certainly or probably unbaptised.

"The practical lesson which I would deduce from all this is, that in the case of those who come to us for Confirmation or for admission to any of the other means of grace in the Church, and, above all, in the case of sick and dying persons, we have no right to assume that Baptism has been previously received. On the contrary, it is much safer to assume that it is otherwise, and to make use of the conditional form already referred to and provided for us in the English Prayer-Book and in our Scottish canons."

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND HER TITLE.

In answer to a "Catholic" (Roman), who asserted that we have no right to our old churches, &c., the Rev. John R. Lunn, of Marton-cum-Grafton, writes to the *Yorkshire Post*:—

"1. Magna Charta recognises the Church of England (*Anglicana Ecclesia*), and that she has certain rights.

"2. The Acts of Parliament passed by 'our Catholic ancestors' in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries recognise the same Church of England, and allege that the Bishop and Court of Rome infringed her rights.

"3. Reginald Peacock, Bishop of Chichester about 1450, speaks of the Church of Rome, and also of the Church of England, as having temporal possessions (*Repressor*, Part III., c. 13). He therefore recognises these Churches as distinct.

"4. The Acts 26 Henry VIII., c. 1 and 3, respecting the King's supremacy in the Church of England, call her *Anglicana Ecclesia*, and identify her with the mediæval Church.

"5. The original 'Preface' to the Prayer-Book of 1549 (now called 'Concerning the service of the Church') says officially, 'The service *in this Church of England* these many years hath been read in Latin.' This identifies the then Church with the mediæval one.

"6. The next chapter, 'Of Ceremonies,' says:—'In these our doings we condemn no other nations, nor prescribe anything but to our own people only.' Therefore the Church of England refused then to make any protest against the Church of Rome or anyone else (same date, 1549).

"7. Article XXXVII. (1562) explains the Royal Supremacy, and asserts that it exists by the 'gift' and 'attribution' of the clergy; for the 'we' therein cannot mean anything else but the clergy who passed the Articles in Convocation. (See title of Articles).

"8. In the Prayer for All Sorts and Conditions of Men we pray 'for the good estate of the Catholic Church.' This was composed by Bishop Sanderson or Bishop Gunning in 1662. It is incredible that the author of it, and the Convocation that accepted it, regarded themselves as other than members of the Catholic Church.

"9. In 1689 the Convocation, discussing the draft of an address to King William III., in which some words occurred describing the Church of England as Protestant, refused to pass it till those words were struck out.

"10. From (2) it follows that our Catholic ancestors did not admit the supremacy of the Pope. Reference to the Missals of Salisbury, York, Hereford, &c., will show that they did not use the Roman Missal for the Mass. (See Mr. Maskell's reprints.) Similar reference will show that they did not use the Roman Breviary for the prayers. Therefore they were not Roman Catholics in the usual sense of that term.

"11. 'Catholic' is infelicitous in citing the Wesleyans as a parallel case. Wesley never was outside the English Church, and his followers cannot be said to have seceded till 1836. If 'Catholic's' view is right, the Wesleyans have no claim to the *chapels* they built previously to that date. That is the proper parallel.

"12. The phrase 'Established Church" is but a phrase. There is no law establishing any Church in England. The Acts of Uniformity (1549 and 1662) established a book, not a Church.

"13. There is no trace of any transfer of property to the present ecclesiastical possessors, which must have happened on 'Catholic's' hypothesis."

DISESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Lambert writes:—"Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Glasgow is a distinct bid for the Nonconformist vote, and as such will no doubt be successful.

"The immediate duty of all earnest Churchmen, both clergy and laity, is apparent. In the words of the Bishop of Chichester in the Pastoral lately addressed by his Lordship to his clergy, 'It will not do to sit still in comfortable indolence while the enemy is sapping our walls and thundering at our gates.'"

"Mancunium," in the *Church Times*, asks:—"Could not someone compile a trustworthy account of the endowments belonging to the various Nonconforming bodies in the kingdom? If such a document was accurately done, showing the amounts received now by the chapels, it would do much to convince the people of the hollowness of the so-called Liberationists. It might also contain the amounts granted to the Presbyterians in Ireland under the *Regium donum*, and the sums paid in England to the Congregationalists, Baptists, &c., since 1722. The Liberationists only intend robbing the Church and leaving their own endowments free."

"A British Working Man" says:—"For some days past the rector of Christ Church, Blackfriars-road, has exhibited in this churchyard some three or four bold and well-printed placards, exposing the lies of the Liberation Society and giving the opinions of Lord Selborne, Lord Salisbury, and Mr. Gladstone, on the question of Disestablishment. If other clergymen followed the excellent example of the rector of Christ Church, I think they would be doing a public good, for it is astonishing to find how the working-classes are led away by the emissaries of the Liberation Society and certain Dissenting lecturers."

Criticising a correspondent who had advocated supporting "such a tried Churchman as Mr. Gladstone," "Septuagenarius" writes to the *Church Times*:—"Does he forget that there is such a thing as being 'tried' and 'found wanting?' On such questions for instance, as Disestablishment and the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, I have heard it asserted, and by persons who ought to know, that Mr. Gladstone is not steadfastly opposed to either of these measures. Will your correspondent, then, forgive me if I ask him whether he considers that the following incidents in Mr. Gladstone's political career are proofs of his 'tried' Churchmanship? He was most strenuous and vehement in his opposition to the Public Worship Regulation Bill. How long was it after his return to power before the Burials Bill was introduced and carried by his Administration? And, be it remembered, this measure was one of the most oppressive insults ever offered to the Church, to say nothing of its being passed in direct violation of our constitutional rights. Then, once more, during Mr. Gladstone's Midlothian political tour in 1880, he spent Palm Sunday and Easter Day in Edinburgh, and it was reported, at the time, that he divided his attendance on religious services between the new Episcopal Cathedral, St. John's Episcopal Church, and the Established and the Free Presbyterian Kirks. But, just to assume that it is 'the duty and interest of the Church to support a Government presided over by Mr. Gladstone,' is it quite so certain that it is the duty and interest of the Church to support a Government which will include such men as Sir William Harcourt, Sir Charles Dilke, Mr. Chamberlain, and others of that class of opinions on Church questions, men whom Mr. Gladstone has not backbone enough to resist?"

The Bishop of Carlisle in his recent Charge, said:—"I have said on other occasions, and I repeat the opinion now, that there is no obvious reason why the proposal to destroy the National Church should be more agreeable to the new rural voters than to those who have possessed the franchise hitherto. On the one hand, the poorer inhabitants of the country know better than others what the comfort is of a resident clergyman, with his family, in every village. It is difficult to see what the inhabitants of a country village can possibly have to gain by the shutting up of the parish church, and the confiscation of the property which enabled a man of education to be constantly living amongst them. On the other hand, it is easy to believe that some prospects of advantage will be held out; perhaps it is not very hard to guess what those prospects will be. I do not think it necessary, or that it would be wise, to anticipate the representations which will probably be made; but I do desire to impress the great importance of making the truth concerning the National Church known, exposing errors and misrepresentations, taking care that the poor people shall not in ignorance throw away their birthright, which they may subsequently seek carefully and with tears."

THE LIBERALS AND THE CHURCH.

In reply to a correspondent who had deprecated "identifying Liberalism with Disestablishment," Mr. A. R. Bingham-Wright, vicar of Stebbing, says:—"Liberalism has already identified itself with Disestablishment. The Conservative candidates to a man are against it. And so Conservatism, acting on the principles which have always guided it, has identified itself with the cause of the Church. Why, then, should Liberal Churchmen hesitate an instant to vote for Conservatives, *pro hâc vice*, wherever the Liberal candidates will not pledge themselves against Disestablishment? A situation is created by natural forces in which the Church's real allies gravitate towards her. It will not be affected by anything Liberal Churchmen may do. I am not at all sure that the often-repeated cry, 'Don't identify the Church with a party,' is not sometimes used as an excuse to themselves by those who are on the point of preferring their party to their Church. Some think that Disestablishment may come without Disendowment, and do good rather than harm. How can they possibly expect the one without the other? Where is the voice who shall say to the Liberation flood, 'Here shall thy proud waves be stayed'?"

"A Presbyter" observes:—"Mr. Gladstone has used language calculated to help the cause of the Revolutionary party, acting the part of a tactician rather than a statesman. One would have hoped, particularly at this crisis, when the masses, whether for good or for evil, are become masters of the situation, that he would have helped to guide the current instead of yielding to it—if it be setting in the wrong direction. The title of his article 'Is the Church of England worth preserving?' was after all not so inappropriate!"

Mr. Hugh Ryves Baker writes of Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto:—"Was there ever more melancholy reading? The casting off by the State of her long connection with the Catholic faith and the plunder of the Church are regarded simply as matters of expediency. There is not one word as to the sin and cruel injustice of these things. Because 'a current in this direction has set in in the civilised world' we are to yield to it without an effort; and because the Church has shown forth great power and life in her 'voluntary efforts during the past fifty years, both at home and abroad,' she is to be effectually crippled in the future by having the voluntary gifts and offerings of her children, long, long ago, taken from her. Mr. Gladstone seems to think that because great and noble efforts have been made by Churchmen during the past fifty years, in the face of the wonderful increase of our population, that therefore there is nothing to fear when the scheme of the Liberation Society is carried out, and he seems to be quite prepared to sit down and regard this prospect with perfect equanimity. But has it ever occurred to him to consider how far those efforts of the last fifty years would have gone had they not been backed up by the old endowments and resources of the Church, or how far, in the still constant growth of population, it will be possible for the plundered and crippled Church to carry on that work of which he speaks so hope-

fully? No doubt much has been done during the past fifty years, but no one who knows anything about Church extension supposes that enough has been done, or that it will be possible to keep pace with our requirements without far more money than we have at our disposal. In fact, the want of money now is the one great hindrance in the work of evangelisation—I speak from experience. Yet Mr. Gladstone speaks of the complete spoliation of the Church as merely 'a modification of our inherited institutions,' and thinks that, after this has taken place, 'the vitality of the Church of England will be found equal to all the needs of the occasion.' What a fearful thing it is to find a man of his power, his abillty, his position lending the weight of his great name to such an entirely sinful scheme—a scheme so utterly devoid of principle—as that of the 'Liberation Society'! Because to speak as Mr. Gladstone has spoken on this all-important subject is *practically* to side with that society. And this brings me to a question suggested by the letters of one or two of your correspondents. A great deal has been said as to how Liberal Churchmen should vote—as to the evil of 'identifying the Church with a party,' or of 'identifying Disestablishment with Liberalism.' But who does this? Is it not done by the Liberal party? Is it not an accomplished fact? When we find upwards of 400 Liberal candidates pledged to Disestablishment, and *not one single Conservative* (*out of the entire number on that side*) *going to vote for it*, is it not futile to talk of the 'danger of identifying Disestablishment with Liberalism'? It seems to me the thing is done, and done by the Liberals themselves! Is it not obvious that if a stand is to be made for the rights of the Church it is to the Conservative party only we have to look for it? These so-called Liberal Churchmen will either hold aloof altogether or else will support the spoliation. And this suggests the further question—can a man who will avowedly carry out the programme of the Liberation Society be rightly called a 'Churchman'? Is a man who will either actively 'go in' for it, or give tacit support to it, worthy of the name? In conclusion, I should like to quote a statement made by Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons, on May 16, 1873:—'The Church of England has not only been a part of the history of this country, but a part so vital, entering so profoundly into the entire life and action of the country, that the severing of the two would leave nothing behind but a bleeding and lacerated mass. Take the Church of England out of the history of England, and the history of England becomes a chaos without order, without life, and without meaning.' Yet he is now ready to stand aside and let this thing take place without a word."

Mr. J. R. O. West says:—"It is made clear to every Churchman that the Church, and not party, either ecclesiastical or political, must be the rallying cry. For years Churchmen have not seen what the only outcome of Liberationist agitation could be, if left unresisted; and the clergy, to whom laymen look for instruction and guidance in such matters, have not taken the trouble to acquaint themselves with the Liberation Society's published proposals. Their 'Practical Suggestions relative to the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England,' were issued in 1877, and they give the particulars embodied in the *Radical Programme*. It is therein stated that:—1. Cathedrals are to be put to such uses as Parliament from time to time may determine. 2. Churches built before 1818, or rebuilt since 1818, or built to replace others existing in 1818, are to be handed over to parochial boards, elected by the whole body of ratepayers, who shall decide to what use the buildings may be put, or dispose of them by sale at a fair valuation. 3. Churches built since 1818, whose donors are living, are to be handed back to the donors; but those whose donors are dead, or which have been built by subscription, are to be handed over to the congregations; and this is the one act of conciliation they propose to perform, not because it would be *just* so to do, but because 'it would not be consonant with public feeling to act on the principle that modern endowments, as well as the old, are national property at the disposal of the State.' The note to section 21 of the Liberation Society's suggestions makes it clear that in thus disposing of the churches they 'recognise the right of congregations, *and of the inhabitants of particular localities*, to determine for themselves their future ecclesiastical relationships.' So that not the worshippers in the church only will take part in the plebiscite vote which is to determine this point, but *all the inhabitants of the particular localities;* and this they make clear. We are therefore in possession of the knowledge as to what they intend. The endowments are to be secularised; the Cathedrals and churches taken from the Church. The clergy are to be pensioned off—'dealt with in the same way as other public officials whose services are no longer required.'"

Mr. G. H. Ross Lewin says there is a difficulty in bringing home to Churchpeople generally what "Disestablishment" means. The scheme of the Liberation Society does not need much explanation. Ten thousand parish churches, some of them like Jarrow and Monkwearmouth, used for Church of England worship for twelve centuries, could be sold. The Church of England is (according to this scheme) supposed to perish the moment the Act receives the Royal assent, and, therefore, receives no compensation. Churches built since 1818 can only be retained for Prayer-Book worship if the majority of the congregation consent, and all episcopal endowments are lost, as well as all given to parishes before 1818.

"J. S.," referring to the direction in which action is most needed, says:—"1. In each parish bring home forcibly to the parishioners therein what effect Disestablishment would have, not simply on the Church at large, but on *them* in particular. The Liberation Society has put a useful weapon into our hands in so distinct a programme. In a Cathedral town 'the determined effort to stop the Cathedral services and to secularise the building' would prove also a wakening. Whilst even in a London parish, with its 8,000 or 10,000, chiefly poor, if ministered to by faithful clergy, the idea of pensioning off the parsons and withdrawing the grant of the Ecclesiastical Commission, by which they are supported, would excite interest. 2. Circulate in each parish a printed statement showing 'What the rector gets; how it is derived; who provided it; who would lose by its confiscation.' This for each parish, and with a well-chosen tract or two on the general subject of Disestablishment and Disendowment, put into the hands of every voter in the parish. 3. Out of every parish form a Church League of men prepared to resist the disowning by Englishmen of their old Church. 4. Let each rural parson consider whether small holdings can be granted out of Church property at no loss of income. Is it impossible to devise a scheme whereby the Church might gradually loosen its hold on the land, exchanging, by a system of easy tithe redemption, its property in the land for property of other kinds?"

Discussing the question "How to avert danger from the Church," the *St. James's Gazette* remarks that the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church will only be inevitable if the clergymen and laymen who have the preservation of the Church at heart act as if Disestablishment and Disendowment could not be prevented. The number of Liberal and Radical candidates who have declared for Disestablishment has now been raised by trustworthy calculations to more than 400. All these candidates, if elected, will vote for the destruction of the Establishment as soon as a Liberal Cabinet proposes it. The figures would be as formidable as they well could be if they were perfectly genuine. But the fact is, they are no illustration of the true opinions of even the Liberal party on the subject of Disestablishment. They merely represent the pliability of a large number of candidates under pressure of the pushing agents of the Liberation Society. In itself, the bladder is a very serious symptom; but the question is whether anything can be done to prick it. And it can hardly be doubted that, if the clergy and laity will only act together, the imposture will collapse. The laity can "heckle" the pledged Liberal or Radical candidate and make him say precisely what his promise to vote for Disestablishment amounts to. And the clergy have ten or twelve Sundays before them, and can at all events preach. The justification for opening a campaign of this kind is overwhelmingly complete. In the first place, the Established Church, of all the institutions threatened by the Radical programme, is the only institution which is really endangered. The progressive Income-tax, the landjobbing municipalities, the destruction of the Denominational schools, will dwindle down into insignificant experiments in the hands of any Government which attempts to carry them into actual practice. But the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church consists in merely taking property without paying for it (which has been done before), in abolishing all present ecclesiastical law, and removing the Bishops from the House of Lords. In the next place, if a clergyman really considers an Established Church an admirable institution, why in the world should he not preach in defence of it? No doubt there is a certain amount of wholesome opinion against any display of political partisanship in the pulpit. But beneath this opinion there has been an assumption that neither political party in the State wished to destroy the Church. The case is altered when an enormous majority of candidates on one side formally promise their intended constituencies that they will vote for Disestablishment, either at once or as soon as any party representing their party gives them the word. Moreover, though there are many sound secular reasons for desiring that an Established Church should be preserved, the chief grounds for deprecating Disestablishment will always be religious and fall quite legitimately within the clergyman's ordinary province. Indeed it is not by any means easy to understand how any clergyman with a spark of loyalty to his profession can hold his tongue when such a question is before the country as the degradation and impoverishment of his Church. He would be like a sailor who, in returning thanks for the Navy, should omit to notice that 400 candidates for Parliament had pledged themselves to emissaries of the Peace Society to vote for the sale of Her Majesty's ships.

We may now specify as a third legitimate motive the desire to unmask as gross a political fraud as ever was attempted under the forms of a Constitution. The Dissenters have during several decennial periods successfully availed themselves of the importance of the Dissenting members of Parliament to Liberal majorities to prevent any accurate enumeration of the number of Englishmen professing to be attached to each of the religious communities known in this country. But, though precise knowledge has thus been made unattainable, there is the highest moral certainty that the adherents of the Established Church are in a great majority. We have no doubt that, if that singular Swiss institution described by M. de Laveleye in the *Nineteenth Century* existed in this country, and if a measure disestablishing the Church were after enactment put to the vote of all Englishmen, it would be vetoed by a majority of some millions. The Conservatives certainly wish to preserve the Established Church; but their clergy are men who do not belong to the agitating class, and it has yet to be seen how the great trick of 1884 affects their parliamentary strength. We firmly believe, too, that the majority of the Liberals have no wish for Disestablishment. Still, there is now but one way of preventing a great national calamity; and it lies in the unsparing activity and unswerving combination of all friends of the Church during the whole interval before the general election.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. W. Blatch, to Rectory of Sloley, Norfolk.

Rev. E. Bradley, Deputy Priest-Vicar and Choristers' Chaplain, to be Choristers' Chaplain, Chancellor's Vicar, and Deputy-Sacrist in Lichfield Cathedral.

Rev. J. P. Brandreth, to Rectory of Standish. Patrons, the Trustees of the late Rev. W. H. Brandreth.

Rev. W. Brooke, Derby, to be Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of Southwell.

Rev. D. Campbell, Vicar of Eye, to be Rural Dean of Hartismere.

Rev. R. Catterall, to Rectory of St. Philip's, Bradford-road, Manchester. Patrons, the Trustees.

Rev. I. Daimpre, to Vicarage of Colebrooke. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Exeter.

Rev. J. Dalton, to Vicarage of Hickleton, near Doncaster. Patron, Viscount Halifax.

Rev. J. N. Dalton, Honorary Chaplain to the Queen, to be Canon of Windsor.

Rev. E. H. W. Dickson, Vicar of Little Ouseburn, to Vicarage of Ugborough. Patrons, the Grocers' Company.

Rev. A. F. D. Disney, Curate of St. Mary's, Leicester, to Rectory of Stoney Stanton, near Hinckley. Patron, the Rev. Canon Watson, Rector of Sharnford.

Rev. A. A. Edmundson, Curate-in Charge of St. John-the-Baptist, Toxteth-park, Liverpool, to Rectory of Lesbury, Northumberland. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. J. Fuller, Rector of Thurcaston, Leicester, to Vicarage of Stanground, Hunts.

Rev. H. F. Hamilton, to Rectory of Woodmansterne. Patron, the Queen.

Rev. H. Hopley, Curate-in-Charge, to Vicarage of Westham, Sussex. Patron, the Duke of Devonshire.

Rev. A. Hughes, Curate of Tavistock, to Perpetual Curacy of Bucks Mills. Patron, Mr. R. J. Cary Elwes.

Rev. W. O'Farrell Hughes, Vicar of Upwood, to Vicarage of Farcet, Hunts.

Rev. F. Jackson, Rector of West Lyne St. Peter, to Rural Deanery of Lynn Marshland.

Rev. F. J. Jayne, Principal of St. David's College, Lampeter, to Rural Deanery of Lampeter.

Rev. M. Jones, to Rectory of St. Mary's, Tilston, Cheshire.

Rev. J. A. Lawson, Rector of Upton-with-Copmanford, to Vicarage of Great Shelford, Cambs.

Rev. J. Lewis, to Perpetual Curacy of Dent, Sedbergh.

Rev. H. L. Mallory, to Rectory of Mobberley. Patron, Mrs. Henrietta Mallory.

Rev. C. Mansell, Senior Curate of St. Edmund's, Northampton, to be Curate-in-Charge of Lamport.

Rev. J. S. Moore, to be Incumbent of St. George's, Great Yarmouth.

Rev. J. T. Müller, Vicar of Pilton, to Vicarage of St. James's, Taunton. Patrons, the Simeon Trustees.

Rev. J. Powning, Head Master of Totnes Grammar-school, to be Chaplain of Totnes Workhouse and Public Preacher in the Diocese of Exeter.

Rev. W. H. Richardson, to Vicarage of Willoughby-on-the-Wolds and Wysall.

Rev. J. E. Smith-Masters, to Vicarage of St. George's, Tylehurst, Berks. Patron, the Bishop of Oxford.

Rev. R. Webster, to Rectory of Millbrook.

Rev. H. M. Wellington, Vicar of Hickleton, to Vicarage of South Kirkby, near Pontefract. Patron, Mrs. Allott.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ELY.—Revs. John Brereton Andrewes, M.A., to St. Neot's; William Brereton, to Wilshampstead; John Hudson, B.A., to Hilston.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF EXETER.—Revs. Joseph Fell, to St. Michael's, Devonport; Charles Edward Gandy, to St. James's, Plymouth; Cecil Richard Hoggins, to St. Mary Church; John Jane, to St. Mary Major, Exeter; Thomas Woolcock Serjeant, B.A., to St. Thomas's, Exeter, and Oldridge.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.—Revs. Charles Marchant, B.A., to Tottington; Thomas Hopkins Minett, B.A., to St. Augustine's, Pendlebury.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.—Revs. Frederick Louis Goslett, M.A., to Tooting Graveney; Frederick Godfrey Guy, B.A., to Sutton.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE HON. AND REV. CANON GORDON, DURING THE VACANCY OF THE SEE OF SALISBURY.—Rev. George Streynsham Jellicoe, B.A., to Alton Pancras.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF SOUTHWELL.—Revs. Charles Massey Gough, B.A., to All Saints' Derby; Edward Ernest Hodgson, to Thurgaton-cum-Hoveringham; Gerald Edward Nicolls, B.A., to Brimington; John Roffey, B.A., to Long Eaton.

OBITUARY.

July 31, at Paramatta, N.S.W., the Rev. F. W. Stretton, Incumbent of St. Matthew's, Windsor, N.S.W., Rural Dean, aged 39.

Sept. 19, at Dewerstone House, Cheltenham, the Rev. Thomas Allen Southwood, for many years Principal of the Military Department of Cheltenham College, aged 74.

Sept. 20, at 22, Patshull-road, Kentish-town, London, the Rev. James Tasker, B.D., for twenty-five years Vicar of Holy Trinity, Carlisle.

Sept. 21, at Cricklewood, the Rev. Charles Brodrick Swayne, B.A., late Deputation Secretary of the Church Missionary Society, aged 69.

Sept. 22, at Killcott, Godalming, the Rev. Robert William Everett, Rector of Michel Troy and Cwmcarvon, aged 43.

Sept. 23, at Rudford Rectory, the Rev. J. G. Evans, aged 56.

Sept. 24, at Bournemouth, the Rev. Thomas Pearce, Rector of Charboro', and late Vicar of Mordeu, Dorset, aged 65.

Sept. 25, at Long Newton Rectory, Durham, the Rev. Jonathan Wilson, M.A. aged 65.

Sept. 29, at Bramdean House, Hants, the Rev. A. C. Bishop, M.A., Rector of Bramdean, and formerly Rector of Martyr Worthy, in the same county.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Bishop of Ripon will preside at the Diocesan Conference to be held at Leeds on October 20 and following days.

The Bishop of Lichfield has been offered a sum of £10,000 for the purpose of adding a chancel to the very ancient church of Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, commonly known as the Abbey Church.

The Bishop of Southwell on Saturday reopened the historic church of Blyth, founded in 1088. There was no sermon in the morning, while in the evening Mr. Hodgson Fowler, the diocesan architect of Durham, gave an interesting account of the church. The removal of whitewash from the wall at the east end has laid bare a grand fresco of fifteenth century work, the subject being "The Last Judgment."

The Bishop of Peterborough on Wednesday laid the foundation-stone of a new church at Leicester. The church, which is in memory of the late Canon Burnfield, of Bradford, and Mr. Alfred Ellis, of Leicester, is in the Gothic style, and will accommodate about 600 people. The cost will be over £6,000, towards which nearly £4,000 has been obtained. The Bishop said that whatever storms or difficulties might assail the Church from without in the future, she had her foundation laid deep and strong for great national work.

Blyth Church, founded by Roger de Builli in 1088, is being restored at a cost of £3,000, towards which Miss Crofts, of Richmond, Yorkshire, has given £500.

On Sunday the parish church of St. Michael, Stoke, Devonport, was reopened after such extensive alterations that it is difficult to believe it is not a new building. The choir wore surplices for the first time.

On Saturday Mr. Lawrence Hardy opened a church Institute in the parish of St. Mark, Manningham, erected at a cost of £2,000.

Chancellor Espin preached his farewell sermons as rector of Wallasey on Sunday last. He will retain the Chancellorship of Chester and Liverpool dioceses. He will be instituted on Thursday by the Bishop of Durham to the rectory of Wolsingham.

The church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, which has several ancient monuments, and is celebrated as the burial-place of Milton, Foxe, and other celebrities, as well as the marriage of Oliver Cromwell, is to be open to visitors daily from ten to four.

At Westminster Abbey the morning preachers for October will be:—4th, the Rev. W. Covington, vicar of Brompton; 11th, the Rev. S. Flood Jones, Precentor; 18th, the Rev. J. H. Cheadle, Minor Canon; 25th, the Rev. C. B. Scott, D.D., late Headmaster of Westminster School. Canon Duckworth, as Canon-in-residence, will preach each Sunday afternoon at three.

The preachers at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, for October will be—4th and 11th, morning and afternoon, the Rev. J. J. Lias; 18th, morning and afternoon, the Rev. W. Hulton (Society for Relief of Distress); 25th, morning and afternoon, the Rev. A. G. Butler.

The preachers at St. Paul's Cathedral for October will be as follows:—4, morning, the Rev. Prebendary Kempe; evening, the Rev. Canon Trevor, vicar of Beeford. 11, morning, the Rev. Prebendary Wace; evening, the Rev. E. S. C. Gibson, Principal of Wells Theological College. 18, morning, the Rev. Prebendary Stock; evening, the Rev. W. Hopkins, vicar of Littleport. 25, the Rev. J. H. Coward; evening, the Dean of Lincoln. Archdeacon Gifford, as canon in residence for the month, will occupy the pulpit on Sunday afternoon. The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Monday, October 19, at 7 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Hole, and the members of the Church of England Working Men's Society will attend as usual.

At a recent meeting of the Lichfield Diocesan Purity Council the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

That having regard to the great evil which must necessarily result from the publication of detailed statements referring to offences against purity, this Council earnestly desire to urge upon the editors of newspapers to exclude from their columns all such unnecessary details; and in the matter of legal proceedings, in cases of divorce, or criminal assault, or others of a like kind, to confine the report, as far as possible, to a statement of the charge preferred, the person accused, and the result of the investigation.

On the 27th inst. the Vicar-General of the Province of Canterbury (Sir James Parker Deane, Q.C.) and the Principal Registrar (Mr. John Hassard), acting under the usual commission from the Archbishop, will confirm the election of Canon John Wordsworth, M.A., to the See of Salisbury, in Bow Church, Cheapside. On the following day the festival of SS. Simon and Jude, the Primate, with the assistance of other Bishops, will consecrate Canon Wordsworth to the Bishopric of Salisbury, in Westminster Abbey. It is a coincidence that on the same festival, in 1869, and in the same place, the late Archbishop Tait consecrated his former college tutor, Dr. Moberly, Bishop of Salisbury.

Christ Church, Stafford-street, Marylebone, which has been closed some time for extensive alterations and redecoration, under the direction of Mr. A. W. Blomfield, at a cost of nearly £4,000, will be reopened for service to-morrow (Sunday), when the Rev. J. L. Davies will preach both morning and evening.

We regret to learn that Dr. Henry Cotterill, Bishop of Edinburgh, lies seriously ill, in London, from a cancerous tumour of the jaw, and all hope of his recovery has been abandoned. The Bishop a couple of months ago went to the Continent for his health, but returned no better, and consulted Sir James Paget, who gives no hope of recovery. The Bishop has addressed a very affecting pastoral to the diocese communicating the sad intelligence.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is expected to visit Lampeter, in Pembrokeshire, on the 15th October, to lay the foundation-stone of the new buildings of Lampeter College. All the arrangements for his Grace's primary visitation of the diocese of Canterbury are now completed. On Tuesday, October 20, the visitation will commence by the Archbishop arriving at the great west door of Canterbury Cathedral, and demanding admission, when the doors are at once to be thrown open, and the Dean and Canons and the whole Cathedral staff will be found standing immediately within to receive the Primate. The bell-ringers, the King's scholars, and all engaged in the Cathedral down to the Dean, are each cited to appear in person before his Grace, and their names will be called over by the Registrars, even including the French pastors, a French Protestant service having been held in the crypt ever since the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Wednesday, Oct. 21, will be devoted by his Grace in Canterbury Cathedral to the visitation of the rural deaneries of Canterbury, Ospringe, West Bere, East Bridge, West Bridge, Sittingbourne, Dover, Elham, and Sandwich. The visitation will be continued on Thursday, Oct. 22, at Ashford; Friday, Oct. 23, at Maidstone; Saturday, Oct. 24, at Tonbridge; and on Monday, Oct. 26, at Croydon. His Grace will entertain the clergy and churchwardens of all the parishes at luncheon in the various towns.

The Rev. George Oliver, vicar of St. George's, Darlaston, has written to ask the secretary of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the following questions:—"(1) Are all the funds at the disposal of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners Church property, or has any portion been contributed by the State? (2) What is the year and cap. of the Act of Parliament creating the Ecclesiastical Commission? (3) Are the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and their officials paid for their services; and if so from what source does their salary come?" Mr. Pringle has replied—"(1) No portion of the property administered by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England has been contributed by the State. (2) The Act of Parliament creating the Ecclesiastical Commission was passed in the year 1836, and is the 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 77. In subsequent Acts, and particularly in the 3 and 4 V., c. 113, the 13 and 14 V., c. 94, and the 23 and 24 V., c. 124, important provisions respecting the Commission will also be found. (3) The Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England are not paid for their services, except as to two of them, who receive pay in their capacity of Church Estates Commissioners (see the Act 13 and 14 V., c. 94, above referred to). Of course, the officers and clerks and professional advisers employed by the Commissioners are paid for their services. All payments, whether made to the Commissioners themselves, or to their officials, are made out of the funds administered by this Board."

Earl Grey has followed the example of Earl Fortescue, and become a subscriber to the Church Defence Institution.

The proposed removal of the Church of St. Martin Carfax at Oxford is discussed by the *Oxford Guardian*, which observes that "the possible retirement of the Rev. Andrew Clarke from the incumbency of All Saints' Church has again awakened the question whether it would not be advisable to amalgamate the parishes of St. Martin and All Saints', and so enable the Corporation to pull down St. Martin's Church and relieve the congested traffic at Carfax. St. Martin's Church, from its position in the centre of the city and as the civic place of worship, has from time immemorial played a very prominent part in the history of Oxford. Each year the population and the traffic of the town increases and the block at Car-

fax becomes greater, and therefore it would be as well, now that a fitting opportunity offers, if an arrangement could possibly be arrived at between Lincoln College, the patrons of the living, and the Rector of Carfax, to effect the union of the two parishes, so that a great public improvement might be carried out. The position of the church, abutting as it does upon four of the most busy streets of the town, is felt in a manner which would make its demolition welcome to every one. Architecturally it has not a single redeeming feature either outside or inside, and the beauty of the street would not be impaired by its absence. Several reasons have been urged on the part of All Saints' parish against its being amalgamated with St. Martin's." It is perfectly true that, as is here stated, there is a constant congestion of the traffic at Carfax, especially since the tramcars have been allowed to block up the narrowest portion of Cornmarket-street. But the proposed object could be just as well attained by demolishing the houses opposite St. Martin's as by removing the church. Carfax Church is a hideous example of modern "churchwarden Gothic," and has nothing ancient about it, with the considerable exception of the tower. But it might well be rebuilt in an improved form. There is at any rate not the slightest justification for its removal.

At the Carlisle Diocesan Conference yesterday week, the Bishop of Carlisle presiding, papers were read by the Rev. W. Sherwen and the Rev. L. R. Ayre upon special agencies for strengthening spiritual life, particular reference being made to the use of Church seasons. Mr. William Graham read a paper on emigration in its social and religious aspects. The afternoon was devoted mainly to the discussion of the subject of the Church Army. Archdeacon Crosse read a paper which was generally hostile to that organisation. He said the Church had, to a large extent, lost her hold upon the working classes by years of negligence, and they would not win them back by any short cut, or all at once. He advocated good hard mission work on distinctly Church lines instead. The Rev. George Crewdson, of Kendal, read a paper expressing his high sense of the benefits of the Church Army from practical experience in his parish. Archdeacon Cooper advised the clergy to let it alone. The Rev. J. Thornley, of Workington, said it enabled them to keep touch with the people. In his ears, the brass band of the Army perambulating the streets on Sundays sounded better than the best church bells. Canon Dalton said he did not understand these bands. It seemed creating a new religion altogether. Mr. Valentine, of Workington, an employer of labour, knew of hundreds of men who before led untoward lives, but now led good and pure lives in consequence of the Church Army. The Rev. G. T. Dunne, of Barrow, said such organisations included people never seen in any church before. He had seen at these services some of the most scoundrelly-looking fellows, and generally sitting in the front row. The President said he could see the advantage of such a movement, but there were dangers about it. Some pages of the Church Army newspaper, the *Battleaxe*, were equal to the Salvation Army's paper, the *War Cry*, in point of coarse vulgarity. The Church Army, however, should not be put aside as being a fantastic, foolish, or impossible method of operation. It arose from the best motives, and had been blessed indeed in some cases. Still, let not the clergy be in a hurry to adopt it. After disposing of formal business the Conference was brought to a close.

At the St. David's Diocesan Conference held last week a pastoral staff was presented to the Bishop of St. David's. The staff, designed by Mr. J. D. Gedding, is including the crook 6ft. 2in. in height. The handle is of wood and the head of silver adorned with jewels, in the centre of the crook being a representation after one of Raphael's cartoons of our Lord directing St. Peter to feed his sheep. At the base are statuettes in silver of St. David and St. Andrew, the patrons of the Cathedral Church, the former with a staff in his hand, bearing a dove on his right shoulder, and the latter distinguished by a diagonal cross. The Bishop, in thanking the clergy and laity for the staff, said that he had satisfied himself that the use of that beautiful ornament was lawful in itself, and supported by sufficiently numerous precedents of Anglican usage. It betokened no new departure of policy, and only claimed for the Bishop that ecclesiastical authority which *de facto* belonged to him, and which most Churchmen, as he did, believed to be derived from the Apostles. The Bishop, in his opening address, said that he believed the agricultural voters were as competent to form an opinion as their town brethren, and all he feared was lest they should be led away by reckless agitators. Lord Emlyn spoke at length on the question of intermediate education, and criticised the Bill of the late Government, as did many other speakers. Ultimately the following resolution was adopted, on the motion of the Principal of St. David's College, Lampeter:—"That in the event of legislation relating to Intermediate Education in Wales no Bill will be regarded as satisfactory by this Conference which does not deal with the question upon the liberal, equitable, and economical principles of either the Elementary education school system and the Endowed Schools Act of England and Wales, or of the Irish intermediate system of education, and which does not deal discriminately and sympathetically with endowments intended for the poor. In the meantime this Conference considers it to be desirable that further information should be obtained as to the means of education at present enjoyed by residents in Wales and the deficiencies that have to be supplied."

On St. Matthew's Day, the parish church of Cheriton Fitz-paine, Devon, was re-opened after complete restoration, according to the plans of Mr. Crocker, in continuation of the work done two years ago to the exterior, at the expense of the rector, the Rev. W. H. Arundell, assisted by the contributions of several relations and friends. The gallery, which once blocked up the west end, has been removed, and the very fine tower arch has thus been exposed to view. The organ has been placed in the north aisle behind the choir. A new pulpit, priests' stalls and choir seats of carved oak have been supplied, and the chancel has been raised by three marble steps and paved with encaustic tiles. The reredos has been restored at the expense of the late Mrs. Arundell, in memory of her husband, a former rector of the parish. At the reopening service, the rector himself preached, and at the conclusion of the service the *Te Deum* was sung. At half-past four the rev. gentleman gave a dinner to eighty working-men, and a public tea was laid in the rectory grounds, at which upwards of 400 were present. Among the gifts to the church were a new Bible and Prayer-Book, presented by the young labouring men of the parish. The entire cost of the restoration has been about £1,400, but further fittings are still required.

The Earl of Harrowby addressed a meeting at Stafford on Saturday on behalf of the Lichfield Diocesan Church Extension Society, Lord Wrottesley (lord-lieutenant of the county) in the chair. Lord Harrowby, in the course of his remarks, said that in not a few districts workmen gave their work in the erection of the fabric of a church for nothing, such was their attachment to the clergy and the services of the mission church. Then the church, when completed, became not the parson's church or the squire's church or the rich man's church, but "our" church. That word "our" was the secret of the success of English institutions for the future. If it was "our" Queen, "our" House of Lords, "our" House of Commons, "our" Church, "our" clergy—if those institutions had a hold on the people they would last a long time. He could hardly help alluding to the dangers which it was supposed were likely soon to assail the Church. Frankly, he was not one of those who took a hopeless or desponding view of the situation. He did not regret that the question had been raised. The more the work and position of the Church of England were sifted and investigated the more would its enormous value to the country be brought out before the eyes of the whole nation. He was glad that the crisis had come; but they who believed in the enormous value of the Christian work of the Church must be very careful to inform their fellow countrymen of her true position. There were such strange notions abroad as to the wealth of the Church and the clergy that he had often thought a balance-sheet which showed on one side the endowments received by the clergy, and on the other the amount the clergy and their friends gave the Church out of their private funds, would startle many people by the smallness of the incomes many of the clergy received for the work to which they devoted themselves. It would be found that the clergy gave far more than they received. Let them not lose courage in this time of crisis. The question before the country was one of the very deepest interest, and must not be treated as a political affair, or as relating merely to the material well-being of the people. Rather let them put it to the people on the ground of religion. It was the greatest mistake to suppose that they had to deal with an irreligious nation, for deep among the feelings of the English race was a widespread religious sentiment. Let not the Church hesitate for a moment to appeal to that feeling boldly and strongly, and when the people were brought to examine the matter from a religious point of view they would see that the advantages of the Church to the nation were far too great to allow them to imperil it for one moment. Colonel Levett, M.P., said he did not think the crisis would pass away speedily or easily. In its time of trouble the nation must look rather to the hand of God than to man.

The Archdeacons of Canterbury and Maidstone have received from the Archbishop of Canterbury the following "Prayers for the approaching Election," with an expression of his wish that they may be used in his diocese:—

"I. O Almighty Lord and Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee to guide and govern the minds of Thy people in wisdom, sincerity, and judgment; that, being called to elect just legislators and faithful counsellors to our Sovereign, on behalf of all conditions of men in many nations, we may understand both the sacredness of the trust which Thy providence commits to each of us, and also the greatness of the interests which thereon depend for Thy world and Church, for virtue and Thy true religion. To Thee, Lord, we commend this whole land, for which Thou hast done so great things of old. Abolish all mean desire and unworthy motive; cleanse all thoughts, uplift all minds; let none be deceived through wilfulness or by vain words. Enable us to consider all things diligently, and in singleness of heart to fulfil Thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

"II. He shall refrain the spirit of princes.

"And is wonderful among the kings of the earth.

"Govern, O Lord, the minds of all who are called to choose faithful men into the great council of the nation; that, considering their sacred trust, and the great issues thereof, they may exercise the same in all godliness and honesty; through Christ our Lord. Amen."

"III. Most Gracious God, we humbly beseech Thee, as for this kingdom in general, so especially at this time, that electors may faithfully and wisely make choice of fit persons to serve, under our most religious and gracious Queen, in the High Court of Parliament; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations, that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations. These, and all other necessaries, for them, for us, and Thy whole Church, we humbly beg in the Name and Mediation of Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

"This prayer may be used in the Church Service.

"Edw. Cantuar."

PARIS FASHIONS.

A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, writing on this subject, says:—

"I have seldom seen the shops with so autumnal an aspect thus early in the season. Here and there, it is true, in the milliners' windows a straw hat is 'blooming alone' in last rose of summer fashion; its 'lovely companions are faded and gone," and in their stead are to be seen russet-brown and withered-leaf felt hats with moss-green, lichen-grey, and autumnal-crimson bonnets of plush and velvet. All the colours and combinations of colours are seasonable. Green and brown hold first rank, and these are mixed together and shaded off into golden yellow on the one hand and rich deep red on the other, as they are in nature just now. One set of harmonies composed of fawn and green tinted with pink, in its turn deepening into crimson, and called 'mother-of-pearl,' might with better reason be dubbed the Virginia-creeper mixture—for it reproduces exactly the various tones to be found on this plant in September. The felt hats that are to be seen are mostly brown, whereas green—a rather bright moss-green—is by far the most fashionable shade for bonnets. Plush and velvet are the bonnet-making materials *par excellence*, and one or other enters into the composition of almost every specimen to be found in the show-rooms. Now and then it serves as the foundation, the other ingredients being plumage and ribbons, gold in various forms, and beads of different sorts, from the small, sparkling one of gilt steel to the larger, sober-hued, carved wooden ball, which would look more at home on a nun's rosary than a gay Parisienne's bonnet crown. At other times the velvet or plush is the trimming, while the capote itself is in silky felt, woollen lace fabric, stockingette, or perhaps cloth worked like an Arab table cover. The bonnets, with very few exceptions, are all supplied with strings. Of course it is quite possible that later on they may be discarded, for the caprice of some *belle dame* or other suffices to upset the rules laid down by greater autocracts even than milliners. Fashion in respect to string-ribbons is electric—it patronises satin with a picot edge, grosgrain, fancy ribbons striped in various ways, besides velvet and plush, the latter sometimes shaded from one tint to another contrasting one, or else woven here and there with strands of stray white pile, like unto the white hairs in silver beaver fur. Plush and velvet, with their derivative, velveteen, are also favoured materials for costumes, or rather portions of them. Redfern makes the skirts of elegant walking gowns with panels of plush divided by pleatings of woollen; while a vest of plush, or a shoulder-piece of the same with epaulets, puts the bodice in harmony with the rest. Plain plush skirts, also, to wear with tunics embroidered in open-work, and braided with gold or silver, the edge of the jacket-bodice being cut out in the same way, so as to show a front of underlying plush. He likewise uses plush—of the thick, furry kind—as an excellent substitute for sealskin, trimming the short coats made of it with tufts, and the mantles with a ball-fringe of the real fur. Here, too, I find the revived polonaise, cut diagonally from the right shoulder to the left hip, the tunic portion also draped from right to left. Some of these polonaises are elaborately braided; others, simply hemmed up, hold their own by virtue of their perfect fit. Braiding is also lavished on the short, no longer 'Figaro' but Turkish jacket, cut off just above the waist-line. A row or two of gold braid merely outlines the lower edge, while handsome arabesques of gold cord and braid combined form gorgenette and epaulets. Other bodices, again, have points in front and a narrow habit basque behind. This is a very becoming style to rather full figures; the polonaise suits the slight willow-shaped woman more exclusively. The materials of which such gowns are made include lady's cloth, cheviot and Vicuña cloth, besides cashmere of various sorts, and serge in different degrees of coarseness. Sometimes the twill is so apparent as to have the effect of a diagonal pattern. Fashion patronises loosely-woven fabrics still, but appropriated to the season. The new canvas and Sanglier cloth are no longer actually transparent, albeit a lining of the same colour is required to make them entirely opaque. All gowns, whatever be their style, are made up on foundation skirts of silk or cotton twill. And these are, if anything, cut narrower than they were, which is certainly no argument in favour of the suggested crinoline revival—about which a good deal has been said and writ of late. Whether or no our womankind is to be once more tricked out in cages of steel is a question of some moment. Taste and reason cry out loudly against such an innovation. Let petticoats be starched if need be, and stiff linings put into skirts, but preserve us against that abomination of abominations, the bell-shaped cage—the obnoxious crinoline! The dress improver as worn by some was bad enough, though at its worse it is not quite so bad as a complete armour of steel, the very name of which ought to strike terror into the hearts of those who have the least care for beauty or admiration of form. There is, moreover, an enchroaching power in crinoline that defies everything. The only way is to make a determined stand against it; once accepted, in its mildest manifestation, it will most assuredly get the better of us.

French dressmakers show a more than usual partiality for Limousine—that homely-looking cloth with coarsely-woven stripes of various widths and colours. Stripes of one sort and another are the most fashionable form of pattern. Such an immense amount of ingenuity is brought to bear on them that the sameness which might be supposed to attend the wholesale adoption of lines and bars and bands is entirely removed. Not only is one form of stripe as utterly unlike another as it can well be, but the imaginative genius of the dressmaker, moreover, steps in, and by using the striped material now for one purpose, now for another, placing the bands vertically, horizontally, or diagonally, according to the fancy of the moment, an almost unlimited number of combinations is obtained. Woollens, striped with bands of velveteen or plush, are mostly used for entire skirts or portions of them. In the former case there may be little or no tunic; in the latter a striped breadth placed at the side is the only portion of the underskirt which the polonaise or tunic (open up to the waist) leaves exhibited. When the skirt and tunic form an *ensemble* of draperies falling over a hidden foundation there may be panels of the striped material, or diagonally festooned breadths of it. Many of the new materials can be used any way of the stuff, and a gown with a tunic striped horizontally is a pleasant change from one made plain above and with vertical lines on the lower half. Woollen cloths have by no means the monopoly of the stripe. Silks also are woven in this way. Stripes of plush or velvet alternating with others in grosgrain, watered-silk, terry, or canvas are among the novelties of the season; also satin traversed with bands of velvet brocade, and sarcenet of watered silk with narrow stripes of satin. For visiting gowns, the redingote form, displaying the rich fabric in wide, flat panels at the side and open in front over a velvet or plush front breadth—let into the foundation or else hanging loosely over it, like a narrow apron—is a favourite. In common with the Charlotte Corday or Revolutionary gown, it can be worn without a mantle, doing duty both for gown and outer garment. Striped fabrics suit the latter also better than others. The great difference between the redingote and Corday gown is that the first is, as we have seen, plain at the sides and cut in one with the bodice, whereas the second is gathered on to the edge a little below the waist. Sometimes the fulness is emphasised by the introduction of a *bouillonné* of the material at the seam. This type of gown requires a plain underskirt, which being hidden entirely except in front, needs only one breadth of handsome silk—watered, shot, or figured—let into it, when economy has to be observed, though there is a certain amount of satisfaction to the wearer to have the entire skirt made alike. For dinner dresses and evening demi-toilette, upperskirts, tunics, and draperies of striped taffetas or watered silk are made up of breadths sewn together diagonally—a process which gives another variety to the direction of the stripe. Effective draperies, in the Oriental style, are also produced by the use of gauze-like fabrics, striped with plush from selvedge to selvedge. They need admixture of satin—in folds or *bouillonné*—which is otherwise somewhat discarded for daylight wear, except inasmuch as linings are concerned. Sometimes the simplest of woollen gown will be rendered very elegant without losing any of its sobriety by the addition of a bright-hued satin or surah lining to the tunic or draperies. Of course, it materially increases the expense of a toilet to have it lined with silk in this way, but the *chic* thus obtained is cheap at the price in the opinion of the fashionable minority. Cloaks and mantles made of cloth are, in the same way, doubled in value by reason of the beauty of the lining. Plush is in high favour for the purpose, and the vulgar mind, on which such refinement is lost, may wonder why our *élégantes* do not wear such garments turned inside out for the benefit of the public at large.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Royal family were present at Divine service in the parish church of Crathie on Sunday. The Rev. James MacGregor, D.D., minister of St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, officiated. Lady Southampton and Captain Walter Campbell were in attendance on her Majesty. The Right Hon. W. H. Smith and Dr. MacGregor dined with the Queen and Royal family.

The Queen is to return to Windsor Castle on Saturday, Nov. 21, and will stay there till about Dec. 18, when the Court will remove to Osborne. Princess Beatrice and her husband will accompany her Majesty to Windsor. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught are to remain at Balmoral for three weeks, and the Duchess of Albany will not leave Abergeldie Castle for another fortnight.

On Saturday morning the Prince of Wales arrived at Berzeneze, the estate of Count Tasilo Festetics. His Royal Highness will be in Hungary for nearly three weeks. He is to arrive in Paris on Oct. 21, and will pay a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland at Gmünden on his way from Vienna. The Prince and Princess are to be present at the wedding of Prince Waldemar of Denmark with Princess Marie d'Orléans, which is to take place privately at Château d'Eu on Oct. 22, and they will reach Marlborough House from France on the 24th.

The Queen enters upon the 50th year of her reign on June 27 next year, and the occasion will be celebrated as the jubilee of Her Majesty's accession to the throne. The Corporation of London, it is stated, are already contemplating arrangements for celebrating the event on a scale befitting its importance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Albany presented new colours to the 3rd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders at Ballater on Wednesday. In doing so she remarked that she was fulfilling one of her dear husband's wishes.

Miss Rawson, of Nidd Hall, has given £3,500 for the purpose of erecting a convalescent home at Harrogate, in connection with the Bath Hospital, and the Earl of Harewood has given four acres of land for the site, and also £100 towards the building fund.

The Government have taken the Northumberland-avenue Hotel for five years, for the use of the Admiralty and War Departments, pending the building of the new Admiralty and War Offices.

Sir John Lubbock, M.P., visited Birmingham on Thursday and unveiled a statue to the late Sir Josiah Mason, the generous founder of Mason College and Mason Orphanage. The figure is formed of Sicilian marble, and is of colossal proportions. Sir John Lubbock afterwards delivered an address in the council-house, in which he urged the necessity for greater attention being paid to the teaching of science in public schools, because he believed a knowledge of science added to the interest and brightness of life, and purified and ennobled the character.

After a long discussion on Wednesday on the revised Bible, the general opinion of the delegates of the Yorkshire Association of Baptists seemed to be in favour of the use of the new version in church, but no formal resolution was adopted.

At Bramley, near Guildford, a new middle-class girls' school has been opened by Archdeacon Atkinson, in the absence of the Bishop of Winchester. The school, which is known as St. Catherine's, will accommodate forty boarders. It has been erected at a cost of £7,000, and a new wing will be added when the demand for accommodation makes it requisite. The school will be conducted under the direction of the same Council and in accordance with the same Church principles as the County Boys' School at Cranleigh, where there are at the present time nearly 400 members.

Lady John Manners on Thursday opened a great bazaar at Grantham, and in her opening speech dwelt strongly on the advisability of educating young girls more fully in the art of dressmaking. She said that the price paid for making a dress was about 10s. 6d., and argued that every young woman should be capable of making up her own dresses. Girls were too flaunty, as a rule, and paid but little attention to practical work. If, amid the lurid glare that surrounds us, we could only keep before us the steady light of practicability, we should advance both socially and morally, and become the model and admiration of the world. Her ladyship also dealt with the question of introducing cookery lessons into ordinary school routine.

Compensation to the amount of £10 has been awarded to each of the five stallkeepers who have been dispossessed of their ancient privileges in the Milk-walk, St. James's-park.

The statue which is being erected in the Central Hall of the Royal Courts of Justice to the late Mr. Street, R.A., the architect of that building, is now approaching completion, and the Prince of Wales is expected to unveil it about the end of the year.

The will of the Right Rev. George Moberly, D.C.L., Lord Bishop of Salisbury, who died on July 6 last, at the Palace, Salisbury, has been proved at the Salisbury District Registry by the Right Rev. George Ridding, D.D., Bishop of Southwell, Charles Awdry, and John Cornelius Moberly, the son, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £29,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife £500, and there are specific bequests to her and to his children. Among the latter is that of his gold watch and chain, which he states "was my only patrimony," to his son Robert Campbell. The residue of his real and personal estate is to be held, upon trust, for his wife for life, she maintaining his daughters who have not been married and think fit to reside with her. At his wife's death there are legacies to children, and the ultimate residue he leaves to all his children.

Mr. Gladstone has addressed the following letter to the Metropolitan of Bulgaria, in reply to telegrams which he has received from Bucharest and Philippopolis :—

"*Hawarden Castle, Sept.* 28, 1885.

"Most Reverend Metropolitan,—I have watched with cordial interest the recent events. If the public journals are rightly informed, the several Powers are disposed to act in regard to them with caution and moderation. I sincerely hope and believe that the attitude of the populations and local authorities will be of a nature to encourage the Powers in such a course. I am grateful for the references made to my conduct in the telegrams which have been sent me. My position is now that of an unofficial member of Parliament. But I shall continue in forming my views to be guided by the same considerations as those which have governed my conduct in and out of office during the last thirty years with respect to the Balkan peninsula.—I remain, with great respect, your faithful humble servant, "W. E. GLADSTONE."

It is interesting to know that the price of antique plate keeps up, notwithstanding the bad times ; the 1,700oz. in Messrs. Foster's sale at Linden House, near Woburn, on Thursday, having brought in over £1,800, being an average of over a guinea per ounce. A handsome reeded Monteith, with chased rim and lion mask handles, date of hall mark 1702, brought £340 14s. 6d., being 59s. per oz. ; a plain two-handled loving-cup and cover, date of hall mark 1713, £79 0s. 3d., being 43s. per oz. ; a pair of Old English sconces, with shell tops and branches, date of hall mark 1718, and plated stands and lamps, £111 16s., being 86s. per oz. ; and a heater, with liner and gridiron, date of hall mark 1679, £65 7s. 6d., being 50s. per oz.

The era of sixpenny telegrams was on Thursday successfully inaugurated. Appliances and clerks had been increased for the purpose of transacting the enlarged business expected, and neither the public nor the postal officials, whether in town or country, appear to have experienced any disappointment either in regard to the amount of extra work or the manner in which it was accomplished. One remarkable feature was the great demand which was made at headquarters to register an abbreviated address. Among the first telegrams were congratulatory messages between the Postmaster-General, the ex-Postmaster-General, and the chief officials.

The opening of the winter session of the medical schools was celebrated on Thursday, at most of the hospitals in the metropolis ; but at a few the customary address to the students was dispensed with. At Westminster Hospital, the new medical school erected adjoining the Westminster Townhall was formally opened by Sir Rutherford Alcock in presence of a large assembly. The Bishop of London, at King's College Hospital, delivered an address, and performed the ceremony of prize distribution. At University College Hospital, Professor E. A. Schäfer delivered a lecture to the students. Dr. Hanfield Jones distributed the prizes at St. Mary's Hospital, and Professor Pepper gave an address on the examinations for medical diplomas. There was a large gathering at the London School of Medicine for Women, and the opening lecture was delivered by Miss Orme. The session at St. Thomas's Hospital was opened by Mr. M'Kellar, who delivered the address to the students. At St. George's Hospital the opening lecture was given by Mr. Timothy Holmes, and at the Middlesex Hospital the introductory address was delivered by Dr. J. K. Fowler, being followed by the annual distribution of prizes ; while at the Royal Veterinary College Professor Tuson addressed a large gathering of students.

In view of the fact that there has been in London during the last few years a very considerable diminution in the consumption of coffee, mainly owing to the inferiority of the quality generally sold, it is gratifying to know that here and there are to be found dealers who are making strenuous efforts to counteract the effects likely to arise from the existing order of things, prominent amongst them being Messrs. Barber and Co., of Regent-circus and Bishopsgate-street. This firm are now supplying French coffee as used in Paris, in its highest perfection, at the scarcely remunerative price of 10d. per pound. Their coffee is the choicest and most carefully selected, roasted on the French principle, and mixed with the finest Bruges chicory ; it has been before the public for many years, and has everywhere been greatly appreciated, while the faculty has pronounced high encomiums upon it. Our Continental neighbours should, therefore, no longer exclusively enjoy the reputation of being able to provide coffee of the most agreeable flavour. While an article of such excellent quality and aroma can be procured from Messrs. Barber and Co., it cannot justly be said of the Parisian coffee that it is "a luxury unknown in England."

The Liberation Society's Committee have issued a circular to the society's supporters, in which they refer to their resolutions of last December expressing the opinion that in view of the passing of the Franchise and Seats Bills the time had come for resolutely pressing the question of Disestablishment on the constituencies. It was also urged that measures should be adopted to secure the choice of religious equality candidates, and that that should be done as far as possible through the various Liberal organisations. The committee now say that they have observed with the greatest satisfaction the successful results which have followed the general adoption of that advice—results shown in the fact that out of about 600 Liberal candidates whose opinions are known, about 500 are more or less favourable to Disestablishment, while only 43 are opposed to it. These figures, it is alleged, justify the belief that the great mass of the Liberal party consider that the question of Disestablishment has become one of practical politics, and that it is now but a question of time when it shall be seriously grappled with. The recent utterance of Mr. Gladstone on the subject is regarded as being "not less indicative of the rapid advance of our great cause." It is, however, pointed out that the most arduous task devolving on the friends of Religious Equality has yet to be accomplished, viz. : the return of the Disestablishment candidates. The opponents of such a change may be expected to put forth all their strength, and their exertions must be adequately met. The society has already circulated a large number of electoral publications, and will greatly increase the number if the necessary funds are provided. The circular closes by saying that the committee see in the present hopeful position of the movement the fruits of the patient, persevering, and faithful labours of many past years. "It now remains to complete the work, and they do not doubt that there will be the energy, the liberality, and the practical wisdom which are needed to make the approaching general election the means of bringing within a measurable distance the accomplishment of the society's great object."

Lord Shaftesbury, we regret to announce, died at Folkestone at two o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The deceased Peer was born in London on April 28, 1801, and had a distinguished University course at Oxford, where he took a first-class in classics in 1822. His Parliamentary career began at the age of 25 years, when he entered the House of Commons as member for Woodstock, and supported the Governments of Lord Liverpool and Canning. In 1830 he was returned for Dorchester, and in the following year for Dorsetshire. After a year and a half's absence from Parliament, he was elected for Bath in August, 1847, and represented it till 1851, when he succeeded his father in the peerage. In the Duke of Wellington's Administration he was a Commissioner of the Board of Control ; and was a Lord of the Admiralty in the succeeding Administration of Sir R. Peel, in 1834-5. In 1841, Sir R. Peel offered him office, but he declined it, because of a difference of opinion on the Ten Hours Bill, of which he was an ardent supporter. Becoming thus free from the restraints of office, he threw himself with great zeal into the movement then in progress for the amelioration of the condition of our factory population. His labours on their behalf were crowned with success, and have made his name a household word. In later years he took a prominent part in the promotion of ragged schools and similar institutions, which in the sunset of his active life gave many evidences of the good he had done.

Proceedings of an extraordinary character have taken place at Sconser, near Fortree. Sconser is in the centre of a large deer forest belonging to Lord Macdonald, and leased by Mr. Kettlewell. For years the crofters have complained of damage to their crops by deer, it being found impossible to keep them from straying from forest to crofters' grounds. Last winter £150 was claimed from the lessee for damages sustained through the ravages by the deer. Mr. Kettlewell agreed to pay this amount, but the crofters state that he has failed to do so. On Saturday a number of deer were observed feeding on corn and potato ground, and the inhabitants gathered and drove six deer into the sea, where at the time about twenty boats were lifting herring nets. The deer were soon surrounded by the boats, and either drowned or killed by the fishermen. The spoil was then divided between the pursuers and the captors.

The prospectus of a new company which has been launched under the title of Sharp and Company, Limited, has reached us. The company has, it appears, been started for the purpose of extending the very successful business which has hitherto been carried on by Mr. Sampson Low, jun., under the designation of "Sharp and Co., Ventilating, Sanitary, and Hydraulic Engineers," at 11, Holborn-circus, London. Mr. Low, who has written several works bearing on sanitary matters, is the proprietor of many very valuable and highly appreciated patents, and this company has been formed with the object of exploiting some of his most recent patents—notably, those for disinfecting, by a simple and inexpensive process, all water stored in cisterns and intended for sanitary use, a very important matter when we consider the terrible ravages which cholera has lately made in Italy, Spain, and France. It is universally acknowledged that the only sure way to ward off epidemic disease is to obtain pure water, pure air, and scientific drainage, and if infectious disease is prevalent, to localise it as far as possible. Undoubtedly the disinfecting patents of Mr. Low conduce in an amazing degree to this latter condition, whilst his sanitary and ventilating appliances are acknowledged by the highest sanitary authorities to be eminently practical as well as scientific. The names which appear on the prospectus of the company, both in the administrative and engineering department, will undoubtedly give intending shareholders every confidence. Full particulars as to date of allotment may be obtained from Mr. A. R. Vibert (secretary to Sharp and Co.), 11, Holborn-circus, E.C. The majority of the shares are, however, we hear, already disposed of.

Mr. Chamberlain was present yesterday (Friday) morning at a breakfast given by the Bradford Liberal Federal Club, on the occasion of his visit to Bradford, to attend the meetings of the Liberal Federation. Replying to the toast of his health, Mr. Chamberlain said the present Government must show cause for its continued existence. He denied that the Liberal party were divided, but hoped that within its ranks freedom of discussion would always be allowed. He contended that the proposals which he had made had already been accepted in principle. The only differences between him and the leaders of the Liberal party were those having reference to time and opportunity for adopting his proposals. He spoke in justification of his contention that they ought to be adopted at once. He also advocated the establishment of triennial Parliaments, urging the necessity for them in forcible language. He declared that, however powerful a party might be, prolonged labours exhausted the vitality and energy of those composing it. He would prevent obstruction in the House of Commons by constituting the Speaker a dictator with absolute powers in such cases.

On Sunday morning in all the Roman Catholic churches and chapels in Westminster a pastoral letter was read from Cardinal Manning, calling attention to a recently issued decree of the Sacred Congress of Rites in which the Pope has once more commanded all the faithful, both pastors and people, in all parts of the Catholic world to unite during the month of October in solemn supplication and prayer on behalf of the Church and the world, menaced as they are at the present time on every side by the open and secret enmity of the anti-Christian revolution, a further motive for these supplications this year being found in the cholera which had so grievously afflicted Spain, and which seemed advancing in France and Italy. The Cardinal desired earnestly that the priests and faithful of the flock should offer up their fervent prayers and supplications to the Heavenly Father on behalf of those of other nations who were now unfortunately afflicted by cholera, and for their own country that they might be spared its calamitous visitation.

On Tuesday, with the customary ceremonies, Alderman John Staples was elected Lord Mayor. Mr. Staples, after serving for many years in the Court of Common Council, was unanimously elected alderman of the ward of Aldersgate, on the death of Alderman Besley, in January, 1877, and he served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex in the following year, in conjunction with the late Alderman Nottage. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and was formerly chairman of the Library Committee. He is at present chairman of the special committee of the Corporation on the subject of municipal reform, and Master of the Leathersellers' Company. In politics he is a Conservative, though he has taken no active part in electoral matters, and he is a member of the Church of England.

The first snow of the season fell in London on the 25th ult., the earliest on record during the present century. There is but one instance (1829) when a fall occurred so early as the 7th of October. According to Mr. G. T. Gwilliam, of Bayswater, the barometer touched 34 deg. on Sunday, the mean temperature being 41.8 deg., or 13·7 deg. below the average. From a careful examination of the Greenwich Observations, it would appear that during the last sixty years only one day in September has been colder than that—namely, September 28th, 1824, when the mean was 40·7.

Professor Sir G. A. Macfarren, the Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, delivered on Saturday, at the institution in Tenterden-street, Hanover-square, his inaugural address to the students on the opening of the new academic year. He began by congratulating teachers and pupils on once more meeting to exchange goodwishes and hopes of encouragement, and said that art was not an amusement, it was a serious business of life, and those who treated it trivially desecrated their pursuit and did injustice to themselves. They knew the myth of Prometheus—how he stole the fire from Heaven, how he was punished, how his patience outwore the wrath of his tyrant, and how, when he was released from his bondage, he spread throughout the earth among mankind the glory of the light he had stolen. That fire of heaven had its prototype in human genius. It was called the Divine fire, which animated producers and animated executants in the art to conceive, to fulfil, God-like ideas. But the penalties of genius were labour and study, and it was through years of toil only that they could fit themselves for that grand responsibility with which they entered the world as artists, and from which they must never flinch. Calling attention to some leading points in connection with the subject of the aerial vibration, he stated that the forms of some shells and of some of the primitive plants were positively imprinted by the vibrations of the air, and it was well for Englishmen to remember that one of the most important phenomena among the laws of sound—the phenomenon of the wave motion in the atmosphere—was the discovery of Sir Thomas Young so recently as the beginning of the present century. The principal of the aerial vibration brought them to the subject of harmonies. Every musical sound was the generator or basis of other sounds. The sounds, by regulated order, stood in numerical succession, forming a column of tone, from which they selected particular sounds, and the extent of the harmonic column was all but infinite. He proceeded to impress on his hearers that it was highly important that they should familiarise themselves with the musical idioms of their own day, but to do justice to the creations of their own time they must acquire a knowledge of the works of their predecessors.

A list of all pensions granted during the year and charged upon the civil list has been issued. The names are as follows :—Mdme. Alina Balfe, £80, in recognition of the musical distinction of her late husband, Michael Wm. Balfe; the Rev. Wm. Houghton, £100, in recognition of his services to literature and science ; Miss Emma Lubbock Brown, £70, in consideration of the services rendered to history by her late brother, Mr. Rawdon Brown ; Miss Charlotte Raeburn and Miss Caroline Jane Raeburn, £80, in consideration of the merit of their grandfather, Sir Henry Raeburn, as an artist ; Mrs. Matilda Griffiths, £100, in recognition of the services rendered to steam navigation by her late husband, the inventor of Griffiths's screw propeller ; Mr. Edward Scott Docker, £100, in recognition of the value of his treatment of dysentery by ipecacuanha, and of the saving of life which it has effected in Her Majesty's forces ; Miss Harriet Louisa Hamill Stewart, £100, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by her brother, the late Colonel Hamill Stewart, in the defence of Khartoum ; Mrs. Marion Hamill Stewart, £200, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by her son, the late Colonel Hamill Stewart, in the defence of Khartoum ; Miss Ada Letitia Hamill Stewart, £100, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by her brother, the late Colonel Hamill Stewart, in the defence of Khartoum ; Miss Angela Mary Power, Miss Kathleen Mary Power, Miss Frances Ursula Mary Power, and Miss Mabel Alice Mary Power, in consideration of the services of their brother, the late Mr. Frank Power, in connection with the defence of Khartoum, £50 a year each ; Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, £70, in recognition of his services to archæology and literature.

Mr. Caine, M.P., addressing a temperance meeting in the Wheatsheaf Hall, Lambeth, on Monday night, on the subject of bad trade, said there could be no mistake about the depression, for it was felt on all hands. The working man, more than anybody else, felt it, because he was the man who could least afford to have his wages or income reduced. Other civilised countries were suffering from this depression of trade also ; everybody in those countries was affected, the wage-earning classes suffering more than the wage-earning classes at home. The country depended on its trade, and it had two classes of customers—foreign and home. If they read newspaper articles on the question, they would find the falling-off in trade attributed to a diminution of demand on the part of our foreign customers. There was only one trade in the country—the liquor trade—which prospered, and it prospered at the expense of all the other trades. That trade absorbed one-seventh of the entire spending power of the country. Of every £7 which the people spent £1 went on drink. This was the richest country in the world ; yet there were a million paupers in it, and a million more people on the verge of pauperism, costing £10,000,000 a year. What was required to be done was to turn these 2,000,000 paupers into customers, and then the home trade would begin to improve again. On liquor £130,000,000 a year was spent ; and that trade employed only a thirty-fifth of the population ; it annually soaked up £100,000,000 of the wages of the working classes. Besides this, £15,000,000 were paid in poor and police rates, none of which would have to be paid if this country were sober. Directly and indirectly, he estimated that other trades by the extinction of the liquor traffic would be benefited to the extent of £200,000,000 per annum. Mr. Gladstone had put forward his programme ; so had Mr. Chamberlain. Here a statesman and there a statesman put this and that question in the forefront. For himself, he put the question of the liquor traffic in the forefront.

At the hearing of the Armstrong case at Bow-street on Saturday the defendant Stead read a long statement, in which he attempted to justify what he had done. As he was introducing irrelevant matter, Mr. Vaughan had to stop him at several points, and declined to let him read certain passages. When he had concluded Mr. Poland said he adhered to all the charges he had made, with the exception of that concerning Mrs. Mourey, who would only be charged with assault. Mr. Vaughan then said that substantially the question before him was whether or not the child had been taken away fraudulently out of the custody of the parents. The statements made by Jarrett it was perfectly certain were untrue, and they were the statements upon which the child had been allowed by her mother to go into the supposed situation. With regard to Mr. Stead, there could be no contesting that he had been engaged in the taking away of the child. That was evident from his own statement. That statement had been made, and contained statements as to the purity of motive and self-glorification of the part he had taken in the matter. With regard to the defendants Booth and Coombe, there could be no question that they had been engaged in acts for the purpose of depriving the parents of their child. He thought Mr. Waddy's argument rested upon very unstable grounds. He did not agree with Mr. Williams that there was no evidence of conspiracy against Jacques in the abduction of the child. There had been a great deal said about the motive. Mr. Stead had endeavoured to show that his motive was praiseworthy. It might have been a lofty and pure motive, but he (Mr. Vaughan) confessed that if there was a desire for removing the girl from her surroundings, there was no justification for taking her away from her parents. There, might, however, have been a different motive existing in his mind—a desire to obtain material for the nauseating and deplorable articles which had appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* on July 6, and which had certainly given great pain and sorrow to many good people, and had greatly lowered the English people in the estimation of foreign nations. But the law of this country could not be broken for the gratification of any motive, however good. He could not see any difference between this case and that of any religious enthusiast who went into a family and took away a child because the parents of that child were not of the same religious belief as himself. Such a taking away could not be justified, and it would be most fatal and most perilous to the liberty of the people of this country if such an infraction of the law were to be permitted. If such a motive as that were held to be within the law there would be an end to the freedom and security and independence of every family in this country. On the principle of law and on the facts of the case it was his duty to commit the defendants for trial for the various offences charged against them, except only upon the charge of assault against Mrs. Coombe and Mr. Bramwell Booth. The defendants were then formally committed for trial, bail being accepted as before.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Sept. 26 was—medical 890 surgical 377 ; total 1,267, of which 493 were new cases.

MESSRS. FRY AND SONS are daily receiving numerous testimonials from the medical profession speaking in high terms of their Pure Concentrated Soluble Cocoa. Sir Charles Cameron, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, says :—"I have formed a high opinion of its value. It is especially adapted to those whose digestive organs are weak, and I strongly recommend it as a substitute for tea." Ask your grocer for a sample of this delicious Cocoa.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water : its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d

LATEST NEWS.

Constantinople, Oct. 1.

It has now been definitely decided that Essad Pasha shall retain the post of Turkish Ambassador to the French Republic.

Oct. 2.

The troops arriving here are being despatched to Tripoli, Salonica, and Dedeagatch. It is stated that Marshal Fuad Pasha leaves to-day for Adrianople. Said Pasha, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is expected to arrive here from Berlin on the 5th inst.

Nisch, Oct. 2.

There was a grand torchlight procession here last night. During Divine service yesterday the Metropolitan made a patriotic speech. The Skuptschina holds its sittings with closed doors. The Government opposes the project of several groups of Deputies to proclaim King Milan Ruler of Macedonia. It is intended to raise 10,000 cavalry from the Landwehr.

Philippopolis, Oct. 2.

The report which has reached Philippopolis, that a proposal had been put forward by the Russian Government for the dethronement of Prince Alexander, though hardly credited here, has evoked a strong feeling of indignation, as his Highness has never been so popular as at the present time.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 2.

The Servian Legation advises the public to accept with reserve the news and statements published, from interested motives, in regard to recent events in Servia. The Legation, however, does not explain to what particular statements it refers.

The Russian *St. Petersburg Gazette* announces that the Admiralty has decided to begin the construction of a torpedo cruiser on the French system at Nicolaieff at the commencement of next year.

Cairo, Oct. 2.

An official telegram announces that the Dervishes are advancing. It is reported that a force of 1,000 arrived at Hafir, eighty miles distant from the furthest station of the British troops.

The 2nd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers, at Alexandria, which has been ordered up the Nile to reinforce the troops under General Grenfell, will be replaced by the 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment.

Montreal, Oct. 1.

An immense procession of all the French Roman Catholic congregations has been ordered by the Catholic hierarchy for Sunday next, as an appeal to the Virgin for protection during the cholera epidemic. The authorities have forbidden the demonstration, on the ground that it threatens the public safety. The French Press denounce the prohibition, saying that this is the time of all others when the help of Heaven should be implored. The feeling of the French Catholics is such that a repetition of the rioting is thought to be probable if the troops be withdrawn.

THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

The arrangements for the Church Congress on the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th inst. are now practically completed, and there is each day an increasing demand for tickets. In addition to the meetings already announced, the committee have arranged a meeting for women to be held at Ginnett's Circus, Bow-street, close to the Portsmouth Town Railway Station, on Thursday next, at 2.30 p.m. Tickets of admission will be distributed through the incumbents in the borough, and a limited number of platform tickets may be obtained at the Congress office by lady members of Congress at 2s. 6d. each. The speakers will be the Bishop of Newcastle, Canons Hoare and G. Venables, and the Rev. Arthur J. Robinson, rector of Whitechapel. Admiral Duncan Grant, C.B., is prevented by official duties at Plymouth from attending the Congress, and his place will be taken by Miss Weston, whose work on behalf of sailors of the Royal Navy is well known. The discussion on the Church's responsibility for the moral and spiritual welfare of soldiers and sailors will be taken at the lecture-hall immediately after the President's address. The Congress-hall will be ready for use by the end of the week, and gives promise of being a good building for sound. At any rate its acoustical properties will be tested on Monday evening, when it will be used for a large meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society, over which the Bishop of Newcastle will preside. Visitors will do well to remember that their Congress tickets must be secured beforehand to entitle them to the large concessions made by the South-Western and Brighton Railway Companies in allowing return tickets at single fares from any station on their system, if ten miles from Portsmouth, and it may be further added that Portsmouth Town Station is the nearest to the Congress-hall, and the most convenient generally in the borough.

Yesterday (Friday) morning Mr. J. Macdonell, the barrister appointed to revise the electoral lists for the county of Middlesex, decided that the objections taken by the Liberals were good, and that the proprietors of the Stock Exchange had no right to be on the register for Middlesex. This decision affects 619 gentlemen already on the register and 119 who were new claimants. The decision will be appealed against.

Mr. Courtney addressed a Liberal meeting on Thursday night at Templecombe, Somersetshire. Alluding to the need for unity, he said there were differences of opinion about free schools and as to the facilities for giving allotments to labourers. But the question was not whether such subjects must all at once become part of the Liberal programme, but whether they should be open questions about which Liberals might entertain independent opinions, each one endeavouring to promote what he thought right in the matter. He was confident that in the coming Parliament they would see Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Chamberlain and their respective friends associating again together in a Government which would have for its object the carrying out of what the leader of the party had laid down in his programme.

Monday, the 12th inst., has been appointed for the reception of works of art intended for the Autumn Exhibition of the Nineteenth Century Art Society, at the Conduit-street Galleries.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Mr. E. W. Hansell, of the Inner Temple, barrister-at-law, eldest son of the late Rev. E. H. Hansell, Rector of East Ilsley, Berks, and Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, and Miss Edith Ommanney, only daughter of Admiral Sir Erasmus and Lady Ommanney, of The Towers, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight.

Also between Mr. Edmund Ashton, of White Hill, Luton, and Miss Elizabeth Marian Cope, eldest daughter of the Rev. Francis Haden Cope, Vicar of North Malvern.

Also between Mr. William Yorke Foster, Royal Horse Artillery, eldest son of Sir William Foster, Bart., of Hardingham, Norfolk, and Miss Aileen Ethel Portman, youngest daughter of Major Augustus Berkeley Portman, of Guneshkind House, Poona.

The marriage of Mr. Francis W. Gore and the Lady Constance Milles, third daughter of Earl and Countess Sondes, was celebrated on Thursday, at eleven o'clock, in St. George's Church, Hanover-square, in the presence of a small party of the relatives of both families, the attendance being limited in consequence of a recent bereavement in the bride's family. Mr. Marjoribanks acted as best man, and the six bridesmaids were the Lady Lily and Lady Violet Milles, sisters of the bride; Lady Maud Conyngham, Lady Adela Rous, Miss Gertrude Willoughby, and the Hon. Agneta Astley. In addition to the bridesmaids, the bridal procession included two little pages, sons of Lord and Lady Robert Bruce. The bride was given away by her father. At the service, which was fully choral, the Rev. Leslie E. Goodwin, M.A., rector of St. Martin's, and vicar of St. Paul's, Canterbury, brother-in-law of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Edwin Lascelles, rector of Newton St. Loe, Somerset; and the Rev. Bingham S. Malden, vicar of Sheldwick, Kent. The ceremony concluded, the wedding party proceeded to Earl and Countess Sondes's residence in Grosvenor-square to breakfast. Early in the afternoon Mr. and Lady C. Gore took their departure for Fulmer Hall, near Slough, kindly lent to them for the occasion by Lady Willoughby.

At St. Mary Abbotts Church, Kensington, was solemnised, on the 10th ult., the marriage of the Rev. Harry Darwin Burton, second son of Mr. Frederick Merryweather Burton, of High-field, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, with Helen Philippa, eldest daughter of General Baumgartner, C.B., of Island Hall, Godmanchester, Huntingdonshire. The wedding party, which was confined to the members of both families, assembled at the church soon after ten o'clock, the ceremony being appointed for half-past. The bride, who was conducted to the altar by her father, General Baumgartner, was received on entering the church by six bridesmaids. She was handsomely attired in corsage and train of ivory-white brocatelle, the petticoat of satin duchesse being profusely trimmed with Honiton lace and orange blossoms; she wore a wreath of orange blossoms and tulle veil, and carried a lovely bouquet, the bridegroom's gift. The bridesmaids were tastefully dressed in cream Bulgarian crêpe, trimmed with wide Mauresque lace and ribbon, wore large cream moiré sashes, and pretty small bonnets of ruby plush; the two youngest ladies wearing plush hats to match. Each carried a posy of dark crimson and cream roses, given her by the bridegroom. Mrs. Baumgartner, mother of the bride, was elegantly attired in striped smoke-grey velvet and faille Française, with bonnet *en suite* trimmed with jet of the same colour. The service was performed by the Rev. F. Martin Burton, M.A., assisted by the Rev. Algernon Baumgartner, M.A., uncle of the bride, and the Rev. H. H. Chamberlain, M.A., vicar of Godmanchester, General Baumgartner giving his daughter away. On quitting the church the wedding party proceeded to Sheffield-gardens, Kensington, where General and Mrs. Baumgartner entertained a party of about forty at breakfast. The rev. gentleman and his bride started early in the afternoon on their way to the English lakes, where they intend spending their honeymoon. The bride wore a tailor-made travelling costume of brown checked tweed, with French-shaped brown hat to match, trimmed with wings. The wedding presents, exceeding a hundred in number, included some costly and beautiful gifts.

The marriage of Captain Robert Stopford, R.N., with Miss Eda Neville, youngest daughter of Mr. Ralph Neville Grenville, of Butleigh Court, formerly M.P. for Mid-Somerset, took place on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., at Butleigh Church, Glastonbury. The service was choral. Among those present was Admiral Stopford and Mr. and Misses Frank Stopford, Mr. W. J. and Mrs. Maitland, Rev. A. St. John and Mrs. Mildmay and the Misses Mildmay, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Neville, Captain Geo. Neville, R.N., Mrs. Peel, Rev. Seymour Neville, Mr. Hugh Neville, Mr. Frederick Neville, Admiral Hood, C.B., Mrs. and the Misses Hood, and the Rev. F. and Mrs. Brymer. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a white brocaded dress trimmed with Brussels lace. Ornaments—pearl and diamond stars, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Neville Grenville; pearl and diamond cluster bangle, the gift of the bridegroom. Mr. Frank Stopford was best man, the bridesmaids being Miss Beatrice Neville, Miss Grace Neville (sisters of the bride), and Miss H. Stopford and Miss E. Stopford (sisters of the bridegroom). The service was performed by the Rev. William Neville, vicar of the parish. After the ceremony the bride and bridegroom left for Maidenhead; the guests returning to Butleigh Court to luncheon.

The marriage of Mr. T. C. O'Brien, nephew of Sir Patrick O'Brien, M.P., to Miss Gundrede de Trafford, second daughter of Sir Humphrey and Lady Annette de Trafford, of Trafford Park, was solemnised on Thursday at All Saints' Church, Barton. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Right Rev. Monsignor Kershaw and the Rev. L. Schreiber. The bride, who was given away by her eldest brother, was dressed in white satin, trimmed with point de gaze and orange-blossoms, an old Brussels lace veil, fastened with diamond brooches, and ornaments of pearls and diamonds. Mr. J. G. O'Brien acted as best man, and the bridesmaids were Miss O'Brien (sister to the bridegroom), Miss Annette de Trafford and Miss Hilda de Trafford (sisters to the bride). There was a numerous assembly of guests. After the ceremony the party adjourned for breakfast to Trafford Park. During the afternoon the bride, who wore a pretty blue gendarme dress, trimmed with striped silk and bonnet to match, left with her husband for Whitby, in Yorkshire.

On Wednesday morning, the 23rd ult., the marriage of Mr. W. R. Murray, only son of Sir Robert Murray, Bart., of Clarmont, Fifeshire, N.B., with Miss Magdalen Agnes Gandy was solemnised at Holy Trinity, Chester, the Revs. E. L. Salisbury and E. Marston officiating. The bride wore a dress of cream Irish poplin trimmed with Honiton lace, and bonnet to match. She was attended by the Misses Gandy and Richards, who were dressed in cream canvas with ruby velvet trimmings and bonnets to match. Mr. R. W. Browne was the best man.

The marriage of Mr. Reginald West, son of Mr. and Mrs. Algernon West, with Ida, daughter of Lieut. Colonel the Hon. Charles and Mrs. Hay, was solemnised at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult., with full choral service. The Rev. R. T. West, assisted by the Rev. Ernest Dugmore, officiated, the latter giving a sermonette. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a handsome dress of white satin trimmed with rich Honiton lace, and caught up with bouquets of orange flowers and white heather. Her veil was of the same lace, and was fastened with three large sprays of diamonds; while her trian was borne by the Hon. Frances Hood, who wore a becoming costume of white satin and old lace. The bridesmaids— Miss Amy Hay, Miss Maude Hay, Miss Constance West, Miss Keppel, Lady Marcia Cholmondeley, and the Hon. Mabel Hood —wore dresses of cream nun's cloth, with corsage de dentelle, laced across, and bonnets of lisse to match, with offsprays; and their presents from the bridegroom were real pearl brooches and bouquets of chrysanthemums tied with yellow ribbon. A number of friends and relatives were received at breakfast, at 28, Queen's-gate-terrace, by the Hon. Mrs. Hay, and subsequently Mr. and Mrs Reginald West left for Shoreham Park, Kent, the bride's going-away dress being of pale grey poplin, with bonnet to match.

The marriage of Major-General Raymond White with the Hon. Laura J. Edwardes, eldest daughter of the late Lord Kensington, took place on Thursday, the 24th ult., at St. Peter's, Eaton-square, the Rev. Edward Sanford, assisted by one of the curates of St. Peter's, officiating. The service was choral, the hymn "The voice that breathed o'er Eden" being sung in procession. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Lord Kensington, wore a dress of cream satin, the bodice being trimmed with lace and pearls and the petticoat with tufts. She wore a beautiful old Brussels lace veil, fastened with diamonds. There were no orange blossoms. She carried a large and handsome bouquet, but the bridesmaids, who were all children—the Hons. Gwendoline, Sybil, and Grace Edwardes, Miss Sylvia Gay Edwardes, and Miss Ellice—carried no bouquets. They were charmingly dressed in white Swiss muslin frocks, full bodices, with a deep flounce of embroidery and broad Indian silk sashes tied at the back in large bows, bronze shoes, and white silk hose. They wore improved sailor hats, turned up at the corners of the brim, and trimmed with white feathers and velvet, the bows in front being fastened with picturesque diamond daisy brooches, the gift of the bridegroom. The best man was the Hon. Colonel Mostyn. The breakfast was at 67, Mount-street, and later Major-General and the Hon. Mrs. Raymond White left for Bentley Priory, the bride's travelling dress being of deep blue silk and velvet to match.

Mr. Edward Darcy Curwen, eldest son of Mr. Henry Fraser Curwen, Workington Hall, Cumberland, and heir to the Workington estate, has just attained his majority. A grand ball in honour of the event was given at the hall, and over three hundred invitatisns were sent out to the leading families in the neighbourhood. The house was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and lighted with electricity. The music was supplied by the quadrille band of Mr. R. Johnson, Pendleton. Mrs. Curwen wore a sage-green velvet dress, trimmed with embroidered satin; Miss Curwen's ball dress was a beautiful white satin one, trimmed with crême tulle. Several of the guests were attired in black and other sombre-tinted dresses, some relieved with maroon and others with bright-coloured sashes. Most of the other ladies wore white; tulle, satin, and silk forming the chief portions of the materials used. As the guests entered the ballroom they were received by Mr. and Mrs. Curwen, Mr. Darcy Curwen, and Miss Curwen. At midnight supper was provided in the high dining-room and an adjoining apartment. Dancing was again resumed, and continued till three o'clock the following morning, thus ending a most brilliant entertainment.

There were great rejoicings at the seat of Mr. A. P. Lloyd, of Leaton Knolls, Shropshire, last week, to mark the coming of age of his son and heir, Lieutenant Arthur Henry Orlando Lloyd, of the Grenadier Guards, and to congratulate him upon his safe return from the Soudan campaign. The friends of the family residing in Shrewsbury presented Lieutenant Lloyd with two double-barrelled sporting guns and a set of fishing-tackle. The tenants on the estate presented him with a handsome gold watch and a travelling-bag. The festivities wound upwith a ball, to which about 250 of the friends of the family were invited.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD ON CHURCH AND STATE.

The annual conference of clergy and laity of the diocese of Oxford was held on Thursday in the Sheldonian Theatre, by permission of the University curators, the Bishop of Oxford presiding. In his opening address the Bishop, after some observations on local subjects, said:—"I expect to hear a call for deliberation and for action on matters of grave concern to the Church, which these conferences must prepare themselves to answer. To judge indeed from a programme widely circulated just now, it would seem that we are expected to let outsiders settle our religion for us. Those gentlemen who have so long and so loudly protested against State religion now propose to set up a new Parliamentary religion for us, such as England has never seen before. They are going to establish what they call 'congregations' all over the country; and endow them with what may remain of Church property. It is as well to let them know at once that we do not mean to be turned into Congregationalists by any Act of Parliament or political machinery of whatever kind. On the lowest estimate, we Churchmen are many millions strong, and we mean to hold our own principles, our own Church order, and our own Church life. Some people seem to think that they have a monopoly of religious liberty. Those who differ from them are not even—so they say—to be treated with 'equity;' as for equality, they cast it to the dogs. I hope that we are not such traitors to our cause, or such cowards, as to surrender our rights at the bidding of anyone. Other religious bodies would not give up their principles; why should we, who have a polity at least as ancient and as noble as any of theirs? I have not been speaking of money; it is a less important matter. Bad seasons and low prices are rapidly reducing the value of Church property; and the amount of the spoil will be found far less than the spoilers expect. At any rate, Churches do not die of poverty, though they may be sorely hindered by it in doing some parts of their work. But there are ways of taking your money, which, apart from the loss, convey an insult which ordinary self-respect will not endure. When I am told, for instance, that the sovereign, or fifty sovereigns, which I gave yesterday to a Church were given to 'the State'—whatever that may mean—I resent it as a gratuitous affront. I gave my money to the uses of the Church of England, the Church in which I and my forefathers worshipped, and to which I belong. I did not give it to the State any more than my Roman Catholic or Congregationalist neighbour gave his money at the same time to the State; and I resent the assertion as a wilful or ignorant misrepresentation of my acts. I am not speaking for myself alone. Among the donors to the Church in this country are to be found some of the poorest in the land. Little children have filled up their collecting cards; labouring men have given their day's labour; farmers have drawn the stone for many a building; boys and girls at school have added their trifling gifts. When you claim these offerings as the property of some alien body and threaten us with the loss of them, I am inclined to reply nearly in the words of the Cornish ballad that in every diocese and district 50,000 Englishmen will know the reason why. You will perhaps remind me that operations against the Church are not to begin immediately; and why not? Because a great statesman has said that the Church must be treated with 'equity and liberality;' and they who will have neither of these things are anxious to wait till he is gone. This is the real meaning of the delay; and Churchmen in their conferences and elsewhere should not be taken in."

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the Acrostic Editor of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.
(Seventh Month, Tenth Year.)

1. S ybi L
2. A spromont E
3. I selber G
4. N ic E
5. T ho R

Solutions have been received from Knutsford, Viz, Hadji, Tim, S.O.F., Waddles, Vertumnus, Mrs. Mumms, Chelmsford, Hampton Courtier, Sociable, Ketha, Katydid, Peewit, Allspice, Etak, Pen, B.V., Todcat, Iris, Paddy, Conjecture, Pegasus, M.A.E.B., Persevere, and Ham.

July Ties.—A Casual and Land o' Nod have sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

August Ties.—The prize has been won by Roma, whose solution is correct, while that sent by Bios is incorrect. Roma is requested to send name and address for publication.

W.H.F.—An ordinary acquaintance with French, German, and Italian is naturally presumed.

B.—The answer to a Light must, of course, be correctly spelt.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.
(Eighth Month, Tenth Year.)

Proem.

The Pope is asked to intervene,
And peace will reign the two between.

1.

"Thou art as wise as beautiful," she said;
And, womanlike, ignored the ass's head.

2.

Queen of the shades, she yet might mourn
For its flowery meads whence she was torn.

3.

The sacred symbol that brings hope and peace,
Makes grief to yield and bids man's sorrow cease.

4.

"That such a king should play bo-peep
And go the fools among."

5.

Where the Dinaric Alps uprise,
Beneath their shadow peacefully it lies.

6.

A mighty one on the earth we are told,
And a mighty hunter, too, of old.

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